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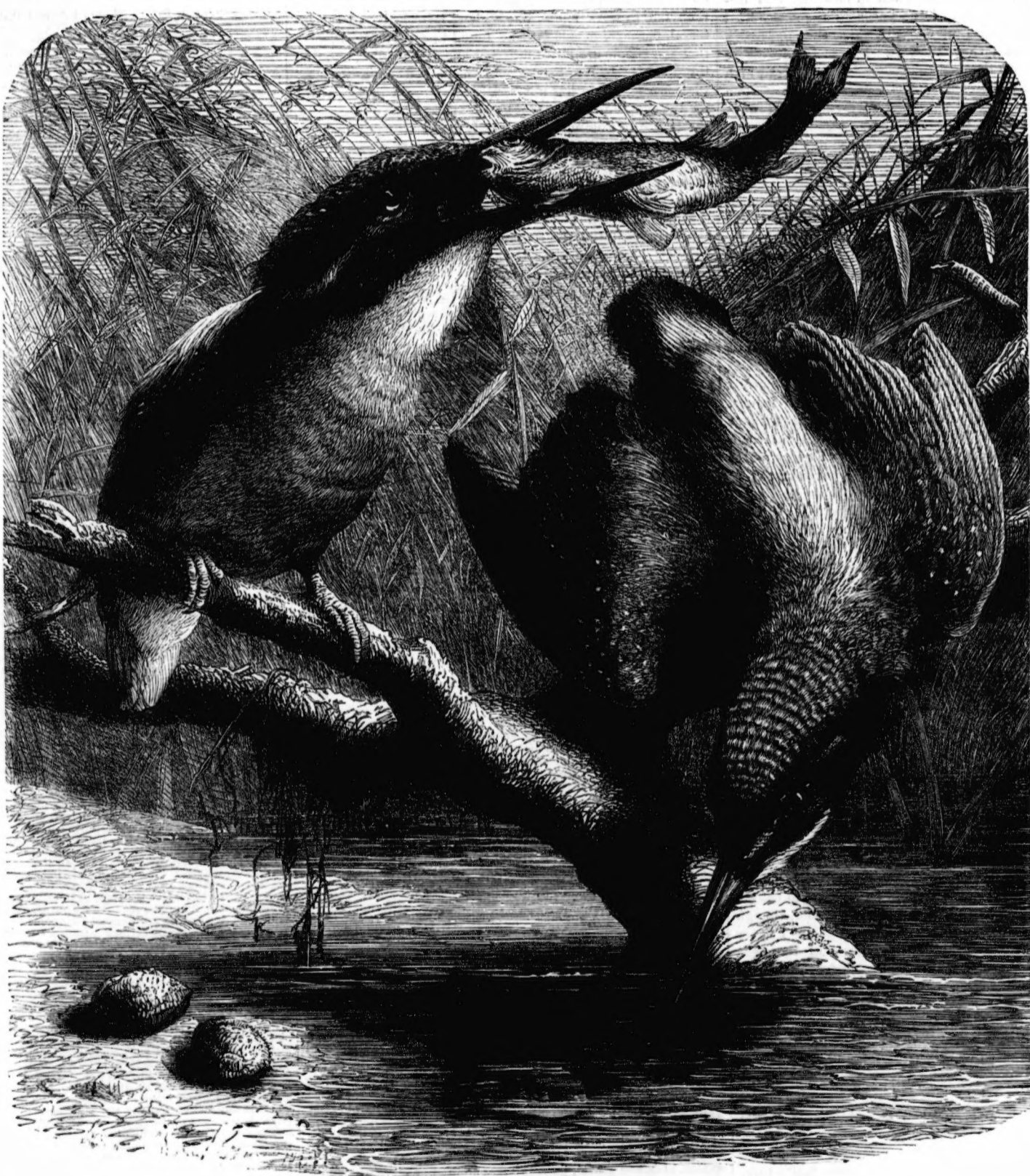
PRICE 3D.

PARLIAMENT AND ITS WORK.

LOQUACITY is the besetting sin of this Parliament. But the talk is not natural, spontaneous; it is not the irrepressible outpourings of men who feel that they have something to say, and who think, rightly or wrongly, that others will be benefited by listening to their deliverances. "Out of the

fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh" cannot be predicated of most of the babblers who have made both day and night hideous this Session. Some men, no doubt, have spoken in all sincerity; but with the great majority of talkers the oratory has been dull, forced, full of vain repetitions: pumped out, as it were, to serve a purpose—the

obstruction of measures which the opposers were powerless to defeat otherwise. It was so as regarded the Army Regulation Bill: it is so as regards the Ballot Bill. Abolition of purchase in the Army was abnoxious to the "Colonels" and their abettors; and so they did their best, by persistent talking against time, to obstruct what they could



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not defeat by fair, stand-up fighting, or rather voting. This "masterly policy of obstruction" was so far successful that Government were compelled to abandon half the measure—its reconstructive elements—in order to carry the destructive portion—abolition of purchase—so as to clear the way for future operations. This emasculation of the bill, the direct result of Opposition tactics, was immediately seized upon by that very Opposition and made a plea for refusing to pass any bill at all. Knock them down, and then kick them for falling: compel them to abandon half their proposals, and then cry out against that abandonment, was the sort of policy Ministers had to encounter. The plea was started in the House of Commons, and was subsequently acted upon by the Lords, in the case of the Army Bill. A like course has been pursued, and no doubt will be pursued, in the case of the Ballot Bill. The policy has been checkmated on the one measure; we hope it will be checkmated on the other also: let a beaten faction raise whatever hollow howl it may about "violent exercise of prerogative," "unconstitutional conduct," "Ministerial coup-d'états," and so forth. Unconstitutional! Why, what is the Constitution? Clearly, the Constitution is, and can be, neither more nor less than the laws, rules, regulations, and observances under which the people for the time being choose to live. When the majority of the people wish to change these laws, rules, regulations, and observances, in whole or in part, it is perfectly constitutional for them to do so; and if any fraction of the people, any minority, be it small or great, be its members high or low, rich or poor, peers or peasants, interpose to hinder such change, they act unconstitutionally, seeing that they thereby thwart the will and postpone the welfare and happiness of their fellow-citizens. All, of course, have a right to an opinion, and to give it expression; but the will of the majority, distinctly and duly declared, is entitled to prevail.

And what hollow humbug is all this pretended indignation at the course Ministers have followed in meeting, and circumventing, the opposition of the Lords on the Army Bill! The Tories are indignant, no doubt, because they have been signally beaten—and they know it. But it is the defeat itself, not the means adopted to accomplish it, against which their rage is really directed. They conspired to frustrate a great reform, and fancied they had succeeded; and now, finding they have failed, their anger against their conquerors knows no bounds, and they fulminate abuse like a drunken virago whose vituperations are not even deemed worthy of reply. What hollow humbug, too, is the pretence under which the Conservative faction in the Lords now professes its readiness to pass the very same Army Bill they meant to reject a fortnight ago! "In order to secure justice for the officers!" Bah! The Duke of Richmond and his prompters know well enough that the interests of the officers are in no danger, and never were in any danger—except from his Grace's party. That party did what in them lay to betray those interests, which Ministers and the House of Commons had dealt with most generously. And for the Tories to come forward now and claim that to them the officers owe the liberal terms conceded is sheer hypocrisy, and an adding of insult to injury. "Thank you for nothing! Our interests were secure without your help, and you were the only persons who placed them in jeopardy," must surely be the sentiment of every officer who bears her Majesty's commission, whether obtained by purchase or not. Hollowest humbug of all, is the pretended censure with which the passing of the bill is to be accompanied. Censure, forsooth! As if everybody did not know that censure from the House of Lords, on such a question, is the highest compliment a Liberal Ministry can receive! To be condemned of the Peers is to be approved of the people; and Mr. Gladstone may well have "a light heart" in the circumstances, and with far other cause than was possessed by the gentleman who on a memorable occasion used the phrase.

We are not surprised that the Lords should now be disposed to knock under, to let "I would" wait upon "I dare not," and pass the bill when they can no longer hinder the reform it was meant to accomplish. They have had to play a like part often before. But it is surprising that an assembly in which there must be at least some sensible men—even on the Tory benches—should go on, despite of all experience, courting defeat and humiliation, and provoking inquiry into their privileges and discussions as to their usefulness as one of the legislative bodies of the State. It is impossible to conceal—much more so to deny—that in this matter of the Army Bill the Peers have once again brought upon themselves ridicule and contempt; they have to eat the leek, to accept a measure they had repudiated; and, though they may, like Ancient Pistol, say, "I eat, and eke I swear to be most horribly revenged," such process of impotent swearing and humble eating will not bear too frequent repetition. It will by-and-by become too ludicrous to be endured, and then—well, we will leave noble Lords to imagine the sequel. Only this we may say, that when that sequel comes and Peers contemplate the ruin wrought upon their order, they will be fully entitled to exclaim, "Alone we did it."

Reverting from the conduct of the Peers to that of the Government, it may be admitted, without admitting much, that it would have been better had an address from the House of Commons preceded the issuing of the Royal warrant abolishing purchase. But, then, the proposal of such an address would have been the occasion of more futile talk, more vain repetition, more delay; and it really was unnecessary. The people's House had already given its sanction to the measure; and that sanction could scarcely have been strengthened by being again pronounced. As to the cry

about unconstitutional employment of the Royal prerogative, that is mere fustian. Abolition of purchase is a purely administrative measure. It is in no degree legislative. Therefore, it lay fully within the competency of the Crown as the administrator of the Army. But there is more in it than even this. The power of permitting, modifying, controlling, and therefore of abolishing, the purchase and sale of military commissions was specially committed by Parliament to the Crown, and the Crown has now simply exercised the power placed in its hands. A Royal warrant gave to purchase all the legality it ever possessed; and what one Royal warrant did, another can undo. And that is the whole sum and substance of the matter.

The Elections Bill, it seems, is to be dealt with in the same way as the Army Bill, and for the same reason. Talk has so hindered progress that the entire measure cannot be fully considered this Session. So it is to be curtailed; and it is not unlikely that the cry of incompleteness will again be raised, as a pretext for doing nothing because it has been designedly made impossible to do everything. Well, the essential feature of the bill—secret voting—will have been adopted by the House of Commons; and if the Peers "cannot give the measure due attention at this advanced period of the Session," then Mr. Whitbread's proposition for an autumnal sitting can be adopted. If noble Lords and hon. gentlemen must do an increased quantity of talking, they must take a larger space of time to perform it in. "By far the best way to lengthen the day, is to steal a few hours from the night, my dear," quoth the lover in the song; and on the same principle the most effectual means of expanding spring and summer is to borrow a few weeks from autumn and winter. We daresay members of Parliament need rest. They have had a long and hard spell of work, albeit not very productive. Even Mr. Newdegate and the "three Batavian Graces"—Beresford-Hope and the Bentincks—must be tired of eternal prosing by this time. So let Parliament recreate itself for a couple of months; and then fall to work again, like a giant refreshed. In the interval, perhaps, means may be found to satisfy Mr. Disraeli that the people are not indifferent about the ballot, and that the Premier has not "become enamoured of a corpse." Platform agitation has not been very vigorous of late years, for the simple reason that it has been felt to be unnecessary, the House of Commons more fully representing the will of the people than it was wont to do. But, if a row in the country be desiderated, we doubt not the Conservative leader can be accommodated with a good boisterous agitation eventuating in a flood of petitions. We cannot say that we see much use for it; but, if need be, the platform can be resuscitated, old Reform associations reorganised, and emphatic expression given to the popular feeling in favour of secret—and therefore free—voting.

Passing for a moment from political to social affairs, it must to everyone be subject of profound regret that a measure like that brought in on Tuesday night by Sir Charles Adderley has no chance of passing this Session. Talk, again, is to blame for this. The dangerous season of the year is upon us; epidemics are even now rife; cholera is once more approaching; and our sanitary arrangements are still the reverse of perfection. Filth, foulness, over-crowding, bad water, faulty drainage, and lack of provision for ventilation, still rule supreme in the dwellings of millions among us; and there is no authority competent to deal effectually with these things. To supply such an authority is the object of Sir Charles Adderley's bill, which is founded on the report of the Sanitary Commission. But it is too late and business is too much in arrears for the measure to be discussed this Session; and so an enemy more dangerous than Bismarck and Moltke (about whom we frightened ourselves a while ago), an invader more deadly than "those accursed Prussians," to quote the Bavarian soldier's phrase to Prince Fritz—is likely to find us still unprepared to meet him. Oh, demon of talk, much hast thou to answer for!

KINGFISHERS.

WHEN a few weeks of brisk, bright summer weather have caused us to forget the soaking showers that have flooded London streets, and made London a metropolis of mud, we shall be longing for the cool ripple of the streams, and fancying that the height of enjoyment is to sit on some mossy bank, under the shadow of a whispering tree, and watch the silver dace flash in and out among the swaying weeds and rushes. No English landscape seems quite complete without water; and even those who do not belong to the school of the great Isaac Walton, and cannot enrol themselves members of the "gentle craft," love to sit beside a still pool and watch the patient sportsman, or to take their jug of cool, amber ale beneath the trees in the garden of the tavern dear to trollers and artists of the "single-hair line," where they may revel in the stillness and peace of the river and its broad, low-lying meadows stretching away to distant uplands that lie in varied tints, like a living map of a fresh and fruitful country.

There are many such haunts known to the angler, who wisely keeps them to himself, or imparts their whereabouts only to particular friends. Some of them have been spoiled by railway invasions and the rude irreverence of excursionists, but there are still a few left untainted by the roar of music-hall choruses and the strange jargon of the London gin-palace. Away beyond Broxbourne, where the river widens into a still pool that was once, and perhaps still is, a celebrated roach swim, such sights and sounds of nature as characterize a holiday are to be found; and at the Fish and Eels, still further up the stream, there used to be such a water-side retreat as might make a man know what it was to rest. There and at Waltham, and on far reaches in that embowered landscape that lies on the banks of the Thames beyond Taplow, and in sweet, soft, embosomed Surrey valleys, and even in Kentish creeks and Hampshire shore shallows, such delights are to be found. It is in such quiet retreats that, as we are gazing half in day dream, half in conscious waking delight, we notice a sudden flash and gleam, as a green and orange meteor flits across the surface of the stream and seems suddenly to flitter and vanish in its depths with a flare of blue. We slowly open our languid eyes and wonder what rainbow chip has fallen from the clouds and dazzled us—when, behold, the blue emerges again in the shape of a feathered tail, and then surge up the gold and green, followed by a black bill, in which glistens an

object of shining silver. Then we become broad awake, and know that it is not a rainbow chip or a falling meteor, but a kingfisher—a bird not above 7 in. long by 11 in. broad, with its strong, straight 2-in. bill, its red legs, and brilliant plumage. There are its mates on the pollard willows, the roots of which are in the stream; and there they will sit for hours, watching till a glistening flutter of the water beneath their red, round eyes causes them to make their long-delayed plunge. Either waiting on tree or stone, or poised in the air like hawks or kestrels, they seek their prey; and their nests are in holes by the river's brink, made first by the mole or the water-rat, and afterwards appropriated by the bird and put into repair, with extensive alterations, by the new tenant.

Except in the breeding season, the bird is usually found alone in its swift flight skimming the surface of the water, wherein the hues of its brilliant plumage is reflected—hues by which the eye can follow it for a long distance.

In almost every part of the globe the kingfisher is to be found; but there is comparatively little variation in the European species. This species weighs about 2½ oz. The upper mandible of the beak is black, the lower one, like the inside of the mouth, is a reddish orange tint. A broad stripe passes from the bill over the eye to the hinder part of the neck, a bright orange colour, but bordered on the side of the mouth and crossed below the eye by a narrow black stroke, and it is terminated behind the auriculars with a slanting, wedge-shaped white spot. The throat is white; the rest of the head and wing coverts are of a deep shining green, spotted with bright light blue; the scapulars and exterior webs of the quills are of the same colour, but without spots. The middle of the back and the coverts of the tail are of a resplendent azure, and the twelve short feathers of which the tail is composed are of a rich deep blue; while all the under part of the body is a bright orange colour. The legs and toes are red, and are peculiar in their conformation—the three forward toes being unconnected from the claws to the first joints, whence they appear as if grown into each other; and the inner and hinder ones are placed on a line on the inside of the foot, whereby the heel is widened and seems to be pressed out. It was formerly believed that a kingfisher, suspended by a thread, answered the purpose of a vane or weathercock, since, if it were sheltered from the immediate influence of the wind, it would be sure to turn its beak towards the quarter whence the wind blew. This superstition has been placed on record even by supposed learned authorities, but it seems to have no foundation whatever in fact; and it is difficult to imagine how it can have arisen, except that the bird may, in seeking its prey, beat down against the wind to intercept fish coming along the current of the stream above which it remains poised.

SIR BENJAMIN PINE.—We are informed that Sir Benjamin Pine, the Governor of the Leeward Islands, will shortly be raised to the rank of a K.C.B. There are few colonial Governors whose experience has been so varied or whose services to the country have been more useful. On the Gold Coast he will long be remembered for the impartial justice of his administration and for his attempts to establish municipal government—an institution which his ancestors summarily extinguished. As Lieutenant-Governor of Natal, his official career was identified with the early history of this still youthful colony; and by his moderation and humanity he contributed not a little towards the foundation of that native policy which has averted from Natal the disasters of a Kaffir war. More recently he has distinguished himself by the mingled firmness and good sense with which he has conducted the affairs of an important West India Government, and by the zeal and ability with which he has co-operated with the Colonial Office in framing that measure of Confederation which now awaits the pleasure of Parliament. As it is said that Sir Benjamin Pine is about to retire from the colonial service, it is only just to him that his merits should be widely known and recognised.—*Daily News*.

KILLED BETWEEN THE TRAIN AND THE PLATFORM.—An inquest was held, last Saturday, by Mr. J. C. Carttar, on the body of Mrs. Rebecca Graham, the wife of a cattle-dealer, who lost her life by stepping out of a train at Charlton station, on the North Kent line, before it had stopped, and falling between the train and the platform. It is supposed that the platform being rather dark, the deceased fancied that the train had stopped. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death;" but a discussion afterwards arose as to the possibility of preventing such accidents by having a continuous footboard along all the carriages level with the platform, and covering all the space between that and the train. It was objected on behalf of the company that the platforms at the various stations were of various heights above the line; but the jury replied that that was an awkward blunder which ought never to have been committed, and which ought to be rectified. They expressed a hope that the Coroner would impress upon railway companies the desirability of a continuous footboard. The Coroner said that that had been done repeatedly, for he had had many cases of this kind; but the railway companies always brought down scientific witnesses, who managed to convince the juries that the present arrangements were as near perfection as possible, and that any alteration would involve new dangers.

THE LANCASHIRE MEMORIAL TO LORD DERBY.—The two movements originated for the purpose of doing honour to the memory of the late Earl of Derby have been amalgamated, and the funds procured through the medium of both will now be applied to the successful attainment of one common object. In July, 1869, a project was set on foot with the view of presenting to the late Earl—for his staunch defence of the Church and the Constitution—a testimonial from the working men of Lancashire, the subscriptions being strictly limited to 1d. Shortly after the death of Lord Derby it was resolved, at an influential public meeting, that North Lancashire should have a substantial memorial of so able a champion, and a large sum of money was procured. It occurred to a gentleman that the objects of both might be more satisfactorily accomplished if the two funds were amalgamated. This idea met with very general favour, and the executive committee of the penny memorial have resolved to offer the whole of the funds at their disposal to the North Lancashire Statue Committee, conditionally that a statue should be erected in Miller Park, Preston. This offer has been accepted. Miller Park is situated on the north bank of the River Ribble, and is a place of extensive resort, not merely by the people of Preston and the neighbourhood, but also by persons from every division of Lancashire.

ABOUT BATHING.—The Royal Humane Society have issued some sensible instructions to bathers which, although not new, are so constantly neglected that there is every reason for their reproduction and distribution each season. The society especially refers to the vulgar error that it is dangerous to plunge into the water when the body is heated. As a matter of fact it is when the temperature of the system has been checked or chilled that immersion is attended with many serious risks. Anyone who is acquainted with the usage of the Turkish bath should also be aware of this. People who indulge in the latter luxury frequently fall into the mistake—which the attendants do not warn them against—of having a swim in the tank after the cold shower. Bathing after a full meal is another source of accidents; but weak persons should certainly avoid going into the water with an empty stomach—headache, dizziness, and nausea may be the penalty of such an imprudence. A fertile source of peril at the seaside is the anxiety of a swimmer at his early arrival to make lengthy excursions from shore. While he may have all the strength and skill requisite to achieve the point he intends to reach, he is not only likely to miscalculate the efforts required for his return, but he is liable to sudden cramp on account of the unusual conditions to which his circulation is abruptly subjected. By keeping within a few strokes of his depth for the first week or so, the swimmer can test his endurance with safety; but a man with whom even a cramp in the middle finger is chronic should never venture out of his depth at all.

THE EPPING FOREST QUESTION.—Last Saturday night a meeting was held at the Coach and Horses Hotel, Stratford, to meet a deputation from the Common Council on the subject of the recent encroachments in Epping Forest by Lord Cowley. The deputation were engaged during the day in visiting the scenes of the last inclosures at Bushwood, Wansford, Loughton, and Buckhurst-hill. The deputation were loudly cheered on their arrival, and the meeting was at once commenced. Mr. G. J. Daniels, solicitor, of Forest-gate, and a freeholder, presided, in the absence of Sir Antonio Brady, and was supported by many of the freeholders and copyholders of the district, in addition to Mr. Deputy Stapleton, Mr. Bedford, Mr. ex-Sheriff Pattison, and many others. Mr. Deputy Stapleton said the Corporation had that day visited some of the most beautiful spots in England, which formerly belonged to the people, and all they could do was to look over the walls, without the right of traversing the green sward. There were only about 3000 acres left to the inhabitants of the metropolis, and if the Government continued indifferent on the subject there would not be 300 acres remaining. The Corporation required the moral support of the inhabitants of the East-End, and they would guarantee that not one farthing was taken out of the rates for the protection of the rights of the people. Mr. Bedford, Mr. Scott (Chamberlain of London), and others addressed the meeting, condemning the conduct of Mr. Ayrton and the Government; after which Dr. Alexander, of Stratford, moved "that a committee shall be at once formed to co-operate with the Corporation in their efforts to preserve the forest for the people." Mr. Harrison, a freeholder, seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The commission on the reorganisation of the army has decided that all Frenchmen between the ages of twenty and forty shall be liable to compulsory service in the army.

The Committee on the Budget have reported that the 480,000,000 to be derived from the new duties will fall short of the amount necessary to cover the deficit by 120,000,000, besides the 238,000,000, the cost of putting down the insurrection in Paris.

In the sitting of the Assembly on Wednesday M. Rouveure brought forward a proposal for the substitution of an income tax and a tax upon salt for the projected duties on textile fabrics and raw materials. The Minister of Finance pointed out that the burdens on land were already very onerous, and that a salt tax would press heavily on the poor; but said it was for the Assembly, in conjunction with the Government, to decide on the best mode of taxation. The proposal was then referred to the Budget Committee.

M. Jules Favre resigned in consequence of the vote of the National Assembly referring the petition of the bishops relating to the Pope to the Minister for Foreign Affairs. M. Thiers, however, refused to accept M. Favre's resignation, and the latter remains in office.

The Municipal Elections in Paris took place on Sunday. It is stated that there were no fewer than one thousand candidates for the eighty seats. The elections passed off quietly, and the attendance of voters was not very numerous. Only thirty-one elections, out of about eighty-nine, were completed, a sufficient number of votes not having been obtained in the other cases. Fresh elections take place to-morrow (Sunday).

The Communist prisoners tried at Marseilles have been sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, varying from twenty years to one year.

It is said that the Orleans Princes have resolved to take their seats in the Assembly after the recess. Prince Napoleon, it is reported, has been ordered by the Government to quit Havre, whither he had repaired to spend a few days in strict incognito.

The Pope having testified his entire satisfaction at the promotion of Mgr. Guibert to the Archbishopric of Paris, the latter has announced to M. Thiers his acceptance of the dignity, and given assurances of his devotion. The Catholic paper, the *Univers*, in commenting upon the debate on Rome in the Assembly, says it is useless to disguise the fact that the cause of the temporal power is lost in that body. "All our hopes have been disappointed," it adds; "in the only nation on which the Papacy could count, the last support fails it. Humanly speaking, all is over. Fine speeches matter little; an equivocal vote means nothing. The important result—that which nearly all the papers have pointed out, that which will definitely encourage the spoilers of Rome—is the manifest disposition of the French Government and the Assembly, either from impotence or unwillingness, to do nothing for the Pope."

A decree of General de Cissey, the Minister for War, appoints a Select Committee to meet in Paris for the examination of arms and war material. The Committee will perform similar functions to those of the Ordnance Select Committee in England. The Committee is composed of a president and twelve members, two of whom belong to the Navy.

Important payments of the war indemnity on account of the second half milliard have been effected, which, together with the 325 million of francs payable by Germany as an indemnity for the ceded portion of the Eastern Railway, will doubtless be completed very shortly. The German troops have quitted several of the departments occupied by them; and it is asserted that M. Thiers has succeeded in inducing Prince Bismarck to effect the evacuation of the departments of the Seine and Seine-et-Oise, as well as the Paris forts, on Aug. 31.

The Court of Cassation has decided that the letter alleged to have been written to M. Devienne by Mlle. Marguerite Bellanger, with the object of retracting her statement as to the paternity of her child, was not addressed to the President of the Court of Cassation. The latter, moreover, brought forward a letter showing that he merely interfered to obtain the departure of Mlle. Bellanger and the restoration of concord in the Imperial family, at the request of the Empress.

The Beni Menasseurs, finding themselves isolated in their insurrectionary movement, have sued for pardon, and tranquillity is beginning to return in Algeria. The Kabyles have paid into the Treasury upwards of 600,000fr. as war contribution. The town of Boncada has been attacked by the insurgents, but the latter were repulsed, and it is probable that the columns under Generals Ceres and Trumlet have now arrived at Boncada with provisions.

Abd-el-Kader is in Paris, and has written to M. Thiers a letter in the style of which the ex-Emperor received many, saying that he longs to make the acquaintance of the new head of the French Government. The old chief, who has entirely retired from fighting business, has still influence in Algeria, and in return for a civil reception by M. Thiers will probably be able to obtain the submission of some of the rebel leaders in the colony yet in arms.

ITALY.

Several newspapers assert that Cardinal Antonelli has summoned Mgr. Dupanloup to Rome. All the Florence journals continue to discuss the recent vote in the French National Assembly on the temporal power of the Pope.

Garibaldi, according to a letter from Maddalena, published by the Italian papers, is just now in very poor health, his suffering being greater than in previous years. He is accordingly compelled to give up his little excursions, and when able to leave his bed is wheeled about in a Bath chair. According to the *Tempo*, a number of the inhabitants of Rome propose to invite the General to the fêtes which are to be given there, on Sept. 20, to commemorate the entry of the Italian troops into the city.

SPAIN.

A Ministerial crisis in Madrid has resulted in the formation of a new Cabinet under Senor Zorilla. The Ministry is composed as follows:—Senor Zorilla, Minister of the Interior and President of the Ministry; Senor Cordoba, Minister of War; Senor Montero Rios, Minister of Justice; Senor Ruiz Gomez, Minister of Finance; Senor Beranger, Minister of Marine; Senor Madraz, Minister of Public Works; Senor Sagasta, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Senor Malcampo, Minister of the Colonies. On Tuesday the decrees appointing the new Ministers were read in the Cortes, when Senor Zorilla declared that his colleagues in the Cabinet belonged to the old Progressist party, and that they would follow the policy inaugurated at the time of the revolution of September. The Cortes have adjourned till Sept. 1, to give time to the Zorilla Administration to prepare their measures.

PORTUGAL.

The King opened the Cortes, last Saturday, in person. His Majesty read the Speech from the Throne, in which he expressed himself much gratified at the reception given to the Emperor and Empress of Brazil. He also announced that, through the long-continued efforts of his Government, the condition of the public finances had much improved, but were still somewhat embarrassed and necessitated rigorous economy.

GERMANY.

A Royal decree has been issued at Berlin ordering that the departments in the Ministry entrusted with the control of religious, educational, and medical affairs, which have hitherto been kept separate for the Catholic and Protestant Churches, shall be abolished, and that these matters shall be confided to the care of one single department, so far as regards ecclesiastical matters. The semi-official *Provincial Correspondence* publishes an article entitled "The State and the Catholic Church," in which it discusses the abolition of the separate department for Catholic affairs at the Ministry of Public Worship, and points out how greatly the relations between the Church

and the State have been affected by the decisions of the Council held last year in Rome. The article concludes as follows:—"In view of the difficulties which have already arisen, the Government is only able to fix upon a decided rule of conduct by taking up its position impartially upon a purely legal standpoint, and treating each disputed case in accordance therewith. In order to render this standpoint sure and make it clearly manifest outwardly, it has been considered wise and necessary to put an end to the separation hitherto subsisting between the departments in the Ministry connected with the Protestant and Catholic religions, and to form once more a single department for ecclesiastical affairs. The Government make known thereby that it intends to treat both Churches impartially and justly in conformity with the existing laws; but, at the same time, to guard the interests of the State with equal vigour against both the Catholic and Evangelical Churches."

INDIA AND CHINA.

The Ameer of Cabul has pardoned Yakoub and his partisans. Ayoob, Yakoub's younger brother, is appointed Governor of Herat, Yakoub remaining in Cabul. The Ameer's troops from Furrak will relieve the troops at Herat.

Disturbances are reported to have occurred at Canton, and a gun-boat has been sent up from Hong-Kong.

THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY AND THE TEMPORAL POWER.

Versailles, July 22.

THE most exciting as well as the most protracted debate of the present Assembly occurred to-day on the "Bishops' Petition," praying for interference on behalf of the Pope's temporal power. The rumour that Mgr. Dupanloup, the Bishop of Orleans, was to support this petition, and that M. Thiers would reply to him, brought crowds of priests and ladies to the doors of the theatre where, from want of room, if not from want of patronage, many had to remain. An archbishop was in the front row of the second tier of boxes, and I saw a cardinal sitting in the diplomatic box by the side of the Pope's Nuncio. I never saw so many members present. Every seat appeared to be occupied, and there was a considerable crowd of deputies standing all day on each side of the chair. M. Grévy began business shortly after two o'clock. There was a little entr'acte, in which M. de Kerdel and other Protectionists endeavoured to emasculate M. Victor Lefranc's bill for enabling foreign ships to help winegrowers in the south of France to carry their produce to market, which French shipping and French railways, crippled by the war, are for the present unable to do. After the bill was carried by a large majority, the great event of the day came off. Two reporters read the reports of Committees on different sets of petitions whose combined request it is agreed to call the "Bishops' Petition," although in point of fact but a very small minority of the French episcopacy took part in the movement. The reporters entirely echoed the spirit of the petitions, and, in an unctuous, emphatic tone, spoke of the Pope as a "prisoner" in the Vatican. The reports repeated the old saying that it was better for the Head of the Church to be a foreigner than a Frenchman, because Notre Dame was too near the Tuileries. The assertion of one of the reporters (not, I venture to suggest, strictly accurate) that the Pope was the only Sovereign who asked the King of Prussia, when he had conquered France, to show moderation, provoked applause on only the extreme Right benches. There was more cheering on the right of the House when it was said that the "so-called" guarantees for the independence of the spiritual power of the Pope offered by the Italian Government were illusory. While protesting against the spoliation and trampling on treaty rights involved in the occupation of Rome by Victor Emmanuel, the reports said they did not wish for war to redress the wrong, but only for the utmost influence of France.

When the reporters had done, M. Grévy beckoned to the Bishop of Orleans, who had inscribed his name as the first speaker. The Prelate rose from his seat, in which he leans against a pillar of a stage-box, and the public, which followed his motions, expecting him to go to the tribune, was surprised to see him stop at the Ministerial bench and enter into a colloquy with M. Thiers. The substance of their conversation, it was very plain, might be summed up in the courteous expression consecrated by the tradition of ages—"Messieurs les Anglais tirez les premiers." The Bishop told M. Thiers that he would speak after him. There was an unusually long pause in the proceedings. M. Thiers, with a real *nolo episcopari* reluctance, accepted the precedence which the Bishop offered him. He went to the foot of the tribune, and there, while waiting for a few spoonfuls of that peculiar claret without which and a glass of water he does not feel sufficiently fortified to speak, he put his hand on his forehead, as if pressing his brain to bring forth a little prematurely what he had thought to say an hour later. At length, the wine and the water being swallowed, and the black-bordered handkerchief displayed as usual, M. Thiers said (quite in the Prudhomme vein) that, under certain circumstances, great interests might better be served by silence than by words. He had nothing to dissimulate. He was now, as ever, a partisan of the temporal power, and in that belief he would die; only the heritage left him by the Empire was such that it was not possible for him at the present hour to support the temporal power as he would like to do. He then, referring to his own speeches in the Corps Législatif, threw the whole blame of the present difficulty upon the Empire. It was kindness of the Emperor to fight for the unity of Italy. He did not blame the Italians, who were only pursuing an idea which they were perfectly justified in entertaining.

But the result had fatally shown how right he was in foretelling that the unity of Italy would, by the force of example, engender the unity of Germany. In this belief he had not shrunk from separating himself, while he opposed the Empire, from men who were now his colleagues. But the fact he had now to deal with was that the unity of Italy was an accomplished fact. He hated as much as anybody the substitution of force for right; but he, being responsible for the welfare of France, must not rashly commit himself to a war. It was true the petitioners said they did not want war. But he must beware of delusion. The diplomatic intervention which they called for might be pregnant with war, and at any rate might cause France to be distrusted by foreign Powers. All these Powers were on good terms with Italy, and he felt it a political necessity that he should be on good terms with Italy also. He would confidently ask the most fervent Catholic in the House whether he would do otherwise. He was proud to say that he had reorganised the army. But he had done it honestly to give France the place which, all her misfortunes notwithstanding, she was yet entitled to among nations, and not with any view that she should make war on the first pretext. His policy was pacific. He could not support the temporal power to an extent incompatible with this pacific policy.

The Bishop of Orleans began his speech by complimenting M. Thiers upon the "rare fidelity" which had made him reiterate to-day sentiments which he had expressed under the Republic of 1848. The Bishop, whose eloquence is of a high order, was frequently interrupted when he entered upon political considerations. He entirely adopted the theory of M. de Guadalupe, that all the elections in France are falsified, because some placard represented that to vote for Legitimist candidates would be to restore *dimes, corvées*, and unmentionable feudal rights. He treated as an electoral calumny the assertion that priests wanted war. On the contrary, they had seen so much of its horrors that they detested war, while admitting that it might sometimes be holy and necessary. Notwithstanding his great oratorical talent, and the extreme curiosity to hear him, he was much interrupted when he said that the men who calumniated priests were extremely likely to massacre hostages. He concluded by saying that without making war France might do something for the Pope, and that it would be glorious for her to take the initiative of a European intervention. The present situation was intolerable, and could not last; and he dwelt upon a saying of Count de Montalembert, that it was necessary that the temporal and spiritual

power should be united in Rome, in order that the spiritual power should be free elsewhere. He could not believe it to be in the designs of Providence that, after a reign of eighteen centuries, the Popes would be salaried chaplains of the wretched King Victor Emmanuel.

Thiers, in reply, exchanged amenities with the Bishop, but said he would not commit the country to a rash course. Then M. Gambetta, whose appearance in the tribune produced a great sensation and a profound silence, as when M. Thiers goes to speak, said:—"I have but two or three words to say, and I was going to take the liberty, in order to spare the time of the House, to say them from my place, when I was called here. An order of the day, proposed by M. Marcel Barthe, stating that the Assembly, relying upon the prudent and patriotic sentiments expressed by the chief of the Executive Power, passes to the order of the day, entirely expresses my sentiments and those of my friends. I therefore support it." M. Keller (the ultra-Catholic member for Alsace) then said that the order of the day which he would have supported when adopted by M. Thiers quite changed its significance when Gambetta adhered to it. Indescribable confusion and excitement followed this assault from the Catholic party. M. Thiers said he did not seek support anywhere, but when it came to him he did not repudiate it, and he thought that if Discord herself could speak, she could not say a more unfortunate word than M. Keller had said. It was not M. Thiers's object to give a triumph to either extreme side of the House. After severe struggles for the last word, M. Thiers agreed to accept the reference of the petition to the Minister for Foreign Affairs on the understanding that "prudence and patriotism" were to preside at the consideration. This in reality amounted to the same thing as the order of the day, and therefore the division-lists repudiating the order of the day and accepting the reference amount to nothing.—*Correspondent of "Daily News."*

HOW PROTECTION WORKS IN AMERICA.

THE Protectionists of the United States find that they are entirely unable to silence one of the most formidable enemies of their false system—the Hon. David A. Wells, former United States Commissioner of Revenue, whose conversion by the investigations required in that office from a Protectionist to a Free-Trader, and whose important writings upon the erroneous revenue system prevalent there, are already familiar to foreign readers. Should the Protective system be ever overthrown in the United States, it will not be too much to say that a leading cause of that result will have been Mr. Wells's luminous writings. He has just made another important contribution to the stock of information on this subject in an article published in the *North American Review* of Boston upon the abuses of American taxation. He says the population of the Union, since 1860, has increased by nearly 8,000,000; that we have 25,000 miles more of railways now than then; that our climate now is not worse than then, nor our soil less fertile, nor our crops decreased; that our debt is only about one half of the British debt; that, exclusive of the interest charge, our Government expenses are considerably less than England's; and that the interest paid here is less per head of the population than that on the British debt. No intelligent man would suppose that the United States were now poorer, or less prosperous, or less able to compete with other nations in the world's markets than in 1860; and, besides the increase in population, the improvements in manufacturing processes, the spread of railways, and consequent cheapening of transportation would, combined, make up all the additional burdens that have to be borne by reason of the late civil war. But Mr. Wells states the fact to be that the people of the United States use less sugar and coffee per head than they did in 1859, and also fewer boots, shoes, hats, and other articles of necessarily universal consumption, while "it is positively known that the consumption of cotton cloth, measured in pounds, was less in 1870, with 39 millions of people, than in 1860, with 30 millions." The people of the United States not only buy less at home, but they also send less of these and their other home manufactures abroad, than they did formerly, and what they do sell abroad they also send in foreign ships. The falling off in the exports of many American skilled industries is demonstrated in a comparative table showing in gold values the exports for 1860 and 1869. Thus, boots and shoes exported decreased from 782,525 dols. in 1860 to 356,290 dols. in 1869; wool and woollens, from 389,512 dols. to 237,325 dols.; carriages, from 816,973 dols. to 299,487 dols.; candles, from 760,528 dols. to 324,995 dols.; pot and pearl ashes, from 882,820 dols. to 187,004 dols.; books and paper, from 664,066 dols. to 290,098 dols.; manufactured tobacco, from 3,337,083 dols. to 2,101,335 dols.; soap, from 494,405 dols. to 384,950 dols.; trunks and valises, from 37,748 dols. to 24,800 dols.; paints and varnish, from 223,809 dols. to 91,452 dols.; gunpowder, from 467,972 dols. to 122,562 dols.; marble and stone manufactures, from 176,239 dols. to 65,515 dols.; indiarubber manufactures, from 240,844 dols. to 128,216 dols.; beer, ale, and porter, from 53,573 dols. to 9755 dols.; garden and other seeds, from 596,910 dols. to 44,186 dols.; hides and skins, from 1,036,260 dols. to 219,918 dols.; and animals, from 1,855,091 dols. to 689,508 dols. The decreased exportation is in the foregoing individualised; but, taking a general view, the total exportation of American produce to Great Britain, which was in 1860, in gold value, 196,260,000 dols., had decreased in 1869 to a paper currency value of 163,195,000 dols. The exports to the Spanish West Indies in 1860 were 13,713,000 dols. gold, and 15,479,000 dols. currency in 1869; to Sweden and the Swedish West Indies, in 1860, 1,513,876 dols. gold, and in 1869 but 166,974 dols. currency; to Mexico, in 1860, 3,338,789 dols. gold, and in 1869, 3,836,000 dols. currency; to the Sandwich Islands, 637,489 dols. gold in 1860, and in 1869, 700,962 dols. currency; and to Canada, 18,667,000 dols. gold in 1860, and 17,765,712 dols. currency in 1869. Currency is now depreciated 13 per cent below gold, and this exhibit shows that, comparing the beginning of the decade with its close, where exports have not actually decreased they have at least stood still.

Mr. Wells also touches on that notorious evidence of the false American revenue system, the decline of shipping. In the trade between the United States and Brazil in 1860 the number of entries was 345 American and 118 foreign vessels; but in 1869 this had changed to 114 American and 359 foreign vessels. In the trade between the United States and the Argentine Republic there were in 1860 68 entries of American vessels and 8 foreign, while in 1869 there were 39 Americans and 33 foreign. In the direct trade with Great Britain in 1860 the entries were 924 American and 613 foreign vessels, but in 1869 this had changed to 365 American and 1394 foreign. Thus has the United States foreign carrying trade fallen off, a fact that is in a thousand ways demonstrated; but Mr. Wells has gone further, and shows that even the American coasting and fishing tonnage has decreased, notwithstanding the thorough exclusion of foreign vessels from those industries and their monopoly by Americans. This fact is one which is new, and excites corresponding comment, for it shows that protection has been stifling the industry protected. The total American registered and licensed tonnage in the year 1860-1 was 5,539,813 tons, and in 1869-70 but 4,246,507 tons (the fiscal year ends June 30). In the coasting trade there were in 1860-1 2,657,292 tons, which had decreased in 1869-70 to 2,595,328 tons; and the tonnage employed in the cod-fishery, which in 1860-1 was 127,310, had declined in 1869-70 to 82,612. Mr. Wells states that in 1860 there were employed in New York city alone 15,000 men in building and repairing marine steam-engines; while in 1870 less than 700 men found employment in this, which is one of the highest and best-paid branches of American industry, and one in which American artisans formerly excelled. Yet this destruction of a business of which the nation was justly proud has happened, he says, in the face of a rise of wages in the same industry in England. American investigators of iron-ship building in Great Britain report that, since 1863-4, wages in that trade have advanced about 15 per cent; but, notwithstanding this, owing to the use and improvement of new machinery and the better applica-

tion of knowledge, the cost of construction has declined; and from this Mr. Wells draws the inference that the result of the last ten years in the United States has been to decrease the purchasing power of wages, increase the cost of the manufactured product, diminish consumption, and prevent exports; while in Great Britain the result has been an increase of wages, a decreased cost of the finished product, an increase of consumption, and a large augmentation of exports.

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THE CAMP AT SATORY.

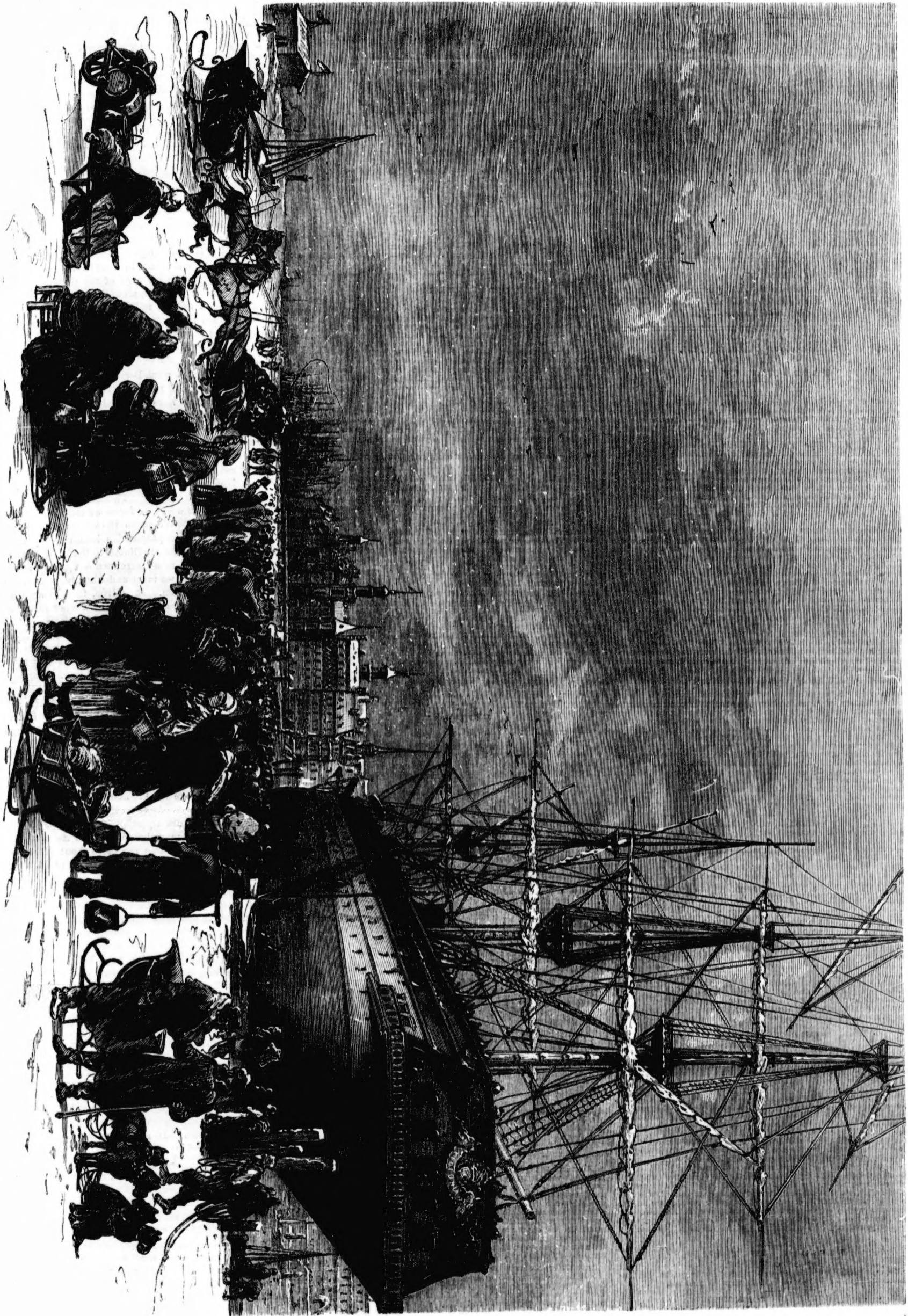
In a recent Number of our Journal we published a description of the condition of the prisoners in the camp at Satory, near Versailles. That was immediately after the entry of the troops into Paris, when the Government had more captives in its hands than it well knew what to do with. Large numbers were sent to the camp at Satory, where they were confined under conditions not a little revolting. Since then things have changed greatly. Among the prisoners were persons of all grades of society, against whom varied degrees of criminality were alleged, while as to some no culpability at all could be proved. A winnowing process was applied: the most desperate were removed to Versailles for trial; others were sent to the ports; some were released, "under caution"; and a considerable number still remain in camp, but on infinitely more agreeable conditions, as may be inferred from the latest statement made on the subject. This is to the effect that M. Thiers lately tasted the water served out to the prisoners in the Satory camp, and expressed the opinion that it was very bad. In consequence artesian-well diggers are now at work with carte blanche to find water of a better quality.

THE RUINS OF AUTEUIL AND NEUILLY.

In order to see by a sample taken, as it were, from an outlying corner, what have been the devastating effects of the war, followed by the still greater calamities that have followed it, the visitor to Paris should go to Auteuil. There are few English tourists who have not "done" Auteuil and seen all that was to be seen in the little country town. The place was celebrated in its way, quiet nook though it was; and the names of Boileau, Jean Jacques Rousseau, and other celebrated people, were associated with it, the house of Antoine Régnier, who has been immortalised in the writings of the great author, having lately stood in the street named after his master, whose own residence at one time adjoined it. Then there was the pavilion built by order of the Duc de Choiseul-Praslin, and inscribed "Ici fut maison de Molière" (Here stood the house of Molière); and in the Rue Molière, Racine had his lodging, at the time that he wrote "Les Plaideurs," in a house which afterwards became the residence of Madame Récamier and of Franklin. Then there was the villa once the seat of the Dukes of Montmorency, and close to it a house still more remarkable as the place where Madame Helvétius passed the latter years of her life, and received the visits of a number of distinguished

men, among whom were Franklin, Turgot, and the first Napoleon. Judiciously situated between the Seine and the southern extremity of the Bois de Boulogne, Auteuil possessed a combination of charms. On the right hand there was angling, either from the bank or from a punt; on the left there were beautiful shady walks, where one could plunge deep into the woods of Muette or Ranelagh, or, better still, muse on the brink of the celebrated pond, where the venerable trees had a European reputation. All this is at an end. The German war, and the still more cruel civil war, have changed everything about the pretty village. There are no more green shady places; the ancient oaks have been cut down by the axe, or, worse still, by the discharge of bombs and grape-shot. The walls of the charming villas, the richly-gilded ceilings, the marble steps and balconies, lie smashed to pieces, in the midst of the rose-trees, which are all prostrate and trailing on the ground, where they are beginning to be overgrown with weeds. Near the Auteuil gate, a short distance from the Bois, and raised on an artificial plateau, the coquettish village had as an adjunct a pretty railway station, with glazed arcades and walls of coloured brick. From this station a beautiful view could be obtained of the Bois and the green slopes of Meudon. Our Engraving will show what ruin has overtaken this place, owing to the excellent strategic position which it offered to the enemy—a disadvantage which it shared with the village itself, to secure which the Versailles batteries of Mortemart and Montretout spared neither powder nor shot.

Neuilly, the aristocratic, the splendid, has also had a terrible experience. Built on the site of the château and park which once lay at the end of the fine avenue extending from the Triumphant arch, this quarter of Paris was a favourite spot for the most elegant modern residences. We all know what an ordeal of flame it has passed through, and the aspect of the place is painfully remarkable on account of the strange pittings and scars of bullets in the tremendous fusillades that have taken place, and the fearful spectacle of ruin and desolation presented on every hand. This aristocratic quarter had contrived to survive the first siege without being altogether worsted; but when the Commune succeeded the German besiegers, in each of its houses and every street the desperate fight went on. Shells burst on the roofs of its buildings and, in its grand avenue, the walls of its outlying cottages have been ploughed by the grape-shot that rained on it for more than two months. The Federals held Neuilly; the army was



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THE CAMP AT SATORY.

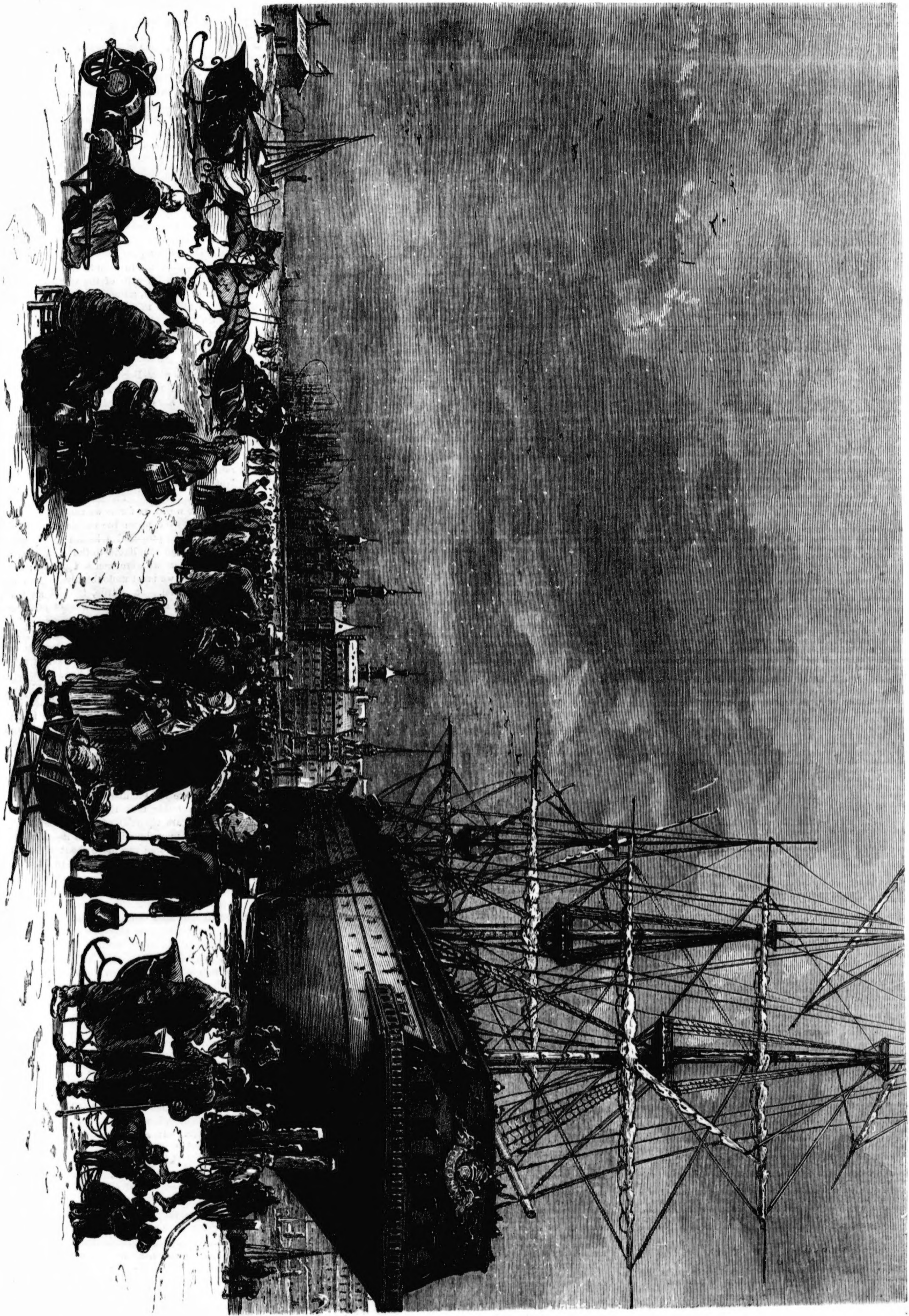
In a recent Number of our Journal we published a description of the condition of the prisoners in the camp at Satory, near Versailles. That was immediately after the entry of the troops into Paris, when the Government had more captives in its hands than it well knew what to do with. Large numbers were sent to the camp at Satory, where they were confined under conditions not a little revolting. Since then things have changed greatly. Among the prisoners were persons of all grades of society, against whom varied degrees of criminality were alleged, while as to some no culpability at all could be proved. A winnowing process was applied: the most desperate were removed to Versailles for trial; others were sent to the ports; some were released, "under caution"; and a considerable number still remain in camp, but on infinitely more agreeable conditions, as may be inferred from the latest statement made on the subject. This is to the effect that M. Thiers lately tasted the water served out to the prisoners in the Satory camp, and expressed the opinion that it was very bad. In consequence artesian-well diggers are now at work with carte blanche to find water of a better quality.

THE RUINS OF AUTEUIL AND NEUILLY.

In order to see by a sample taken, as it were, from an outlying corner, what have been the devastating effects of the war, followed by the still greater calamities that have followed it, the visitor to Paris should go to Auteuil. There are few English tourists who have not "done" Auteuil and seen all that was to be seen in the little country town. The place was celebrated in its way, quiet nook though it was; and the names of Boileau, Jean Jacques Rousseau, and other celebrated people, were associated with it, the house of Antoine Régner, who has been immortalised in the writings of the great author, having lately stood in the street named after his master, whose own residence at one time adjoined it. Then there was the pavilion built by order of the Duc de Choiseul-Praslin, and inscribed "Ici fut maison de Molière" (Here stood the house of Molière); and in the Rue Molière, Racine had his lodging, at the time that he wrote "Les Plaideurs," in a house which afterwards became the residence of Madame Récamier and of Franklin. Then there was the villa once the seat of the Dukes of Montmorency, and close to it a house still more remarkable as the place where Madame Helvétius passed the latter years of her life, and received the visits of a number of distinguished

men, among whom were Franklin, Turgot, and the first Napoleon. Judiciously situated between the Seine and the southern extremity of the Bois de Boulogne, Auteuil possessed a combination of charms. On the right hand there was angling, either from the bank or from a punt; on the left there were beautiful shady walks, where one could plunge deep into the woods of Muette or Ranelagh, or, better still, muse on the brink of the celebrated pond, where the venerable trees had a European reputation. All this is at an end. The German war, and the still more cruel civil war, have changed everything about the pretty village. There are no more green shady places; the ancient oaks have been cut down by the axe, or, worse still, by the discharge of bombs and grape-shot. The walls of the charming villas, the richly-gilded ceilings, the marble steps and balconies, lie smashed to pieces, in the midst of the rose-trees, which are all prostrate and trailing on the ground, where they are beginning to be overgrown with weeds. Near the Auteuil gate, a short distance from the Bois, and raised on an artificial plateau, the coquettish village had as an adjunct a pretty railway station, with glazed arcades and walls of coloured brick. From this station a beautiful view could be obtained of the Bois and the green slopes of Meudon. Our Engraving will show what ruin has overtaken this place, owing to the excellent strategic position which it offered to the enemy—a disadvantage which it shared with the village itself, to secure which the Versailles batteries of Mortemart and Montretout spared neither powder nor shot.

Neuilly, the aristocratic, the splendid, has also had a terrible experience. Built on the site of the château and park which once lay at the end of the fine avenue extending from the Triumphal arch, this quarter of Paris was a favourite spot for the most elegant modern residences. We all know what an ordeal of flame it has passed through, and the aspect of the place is painfully remarkable on account of the strange pittings and scars of bullets in the tremendous fusillades that have taken place, and the fearful spectacle of ruin and desolation presented on every hand. This aristocratic quarter had contrived to survive the first siege without being altogether worsted; but when the Commune succeeded the German besiegers, in each of its houses and every street the desperate fight went on. Shells burst on the roofs of its buildings and, in its grand avenue, the walls of its outlying cottages have been ploughed by the grape-shot that rained on it for more than two months. The Federals held Neuilly; the army was



FRENCH PRISONERS FROM METZ ON BOARD THE TEUTONIA AT HAMBURG.

master of Courbevoie. The beautiful bridge, built above a century ago by the engineer Peyronnet, with its five arches of thirty-nine metres span, its great piles of Taillancourt stone, proved the division between the two camps; and on both sides of the Seine were exchanged tempests of balls and grapeshot. All is gloom in this once gay quarter, and though some of the houses capable of being repaired are in process of rebuilding, such rehabilitation is but patchwork, that cannot be applied to streets where not an entire wall remains standing. The Rue Peyronnet, of which our Engraving exhibits the desolate aspect, will have to be entirely rebuilt.

THE TEUTONIA AT HAMBURG.

THE Prussian ship Teutonia has been the only celebrated vessel in the recent war between France and Germany, and her notoriety has consisted in the fact that it was to her decks that a number of the prisoners taken at Metz were relegated. Like their fathers of Aboukir and Trafalgar, these soldiers were consigned to a floating gaol; but in these days of humanity a floating gaol is not such a terrible place of confinement as it was a century ago; so that whatever may be the stories which are told by the released captives, the narratives of the prisoners of Hamburg will probably fall short of those formerly associated with Plymouth. For it was at Hamburg that the Teutonia was stationed after it was found that she had no more definite part to play in the war than to provide a secure place of detention for a section of the French army of the Rhine. The great, lumbering, broad-beamed vessel was, of course, one of the sights of the commercial city during the winter, and our Engraving will indicate the scene which was presented during the morning promenade.

NOTICE.

IN consequence of some accident, our usual contribution from the writer of the "Inner Life of the House of Commons" and "Lounger" has not reached us this week.—[ED. I. T.]

Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, JULY 21.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE ARMY BILL.

Much interest was evinced by the outside world to learn the course the Conservatives meant to take with regard to the Army Bill. At the time for the commencement of public business—a quarter past five—there were but few Peers on the front Opposition bench. Lord Carnarvon and Lord Chelmsford occupied their usual seats; but the Duke of Richmond, Lord Cairns, and Lord Salisbury were absent from their places—in consultation, it was said, with Mr. Disraeli in the private room in which the noble Duke transacts the business of his office as leader of the Opposition. Nearly all the members of the Government were in their seats, and the Duke of Cambridge occupied his usual seat on the front cross bench. Before the House got to the orders of the day, Lord Ormswath, better known as Sir John Walsh in the other House of Parliament, inquired whether the Government would remove from the Army Bill those portions of the measure to which they no longer intended to ask the assent of their Lordships. Lord Granville at once replied that at the present stage of the bill it would be impossible to make any amendments in its provisions, and his answer was received as conclusive upon the point. Lord Northbrook presented and laid upon the table a Royal warrant, dated July 20, cancelling, after Nov. 1 next, all previous warrants which sanctioned the sale, purchase, or exchange of commissions in the Army; and then their Lordships rapidly disposed of a short list of orders. While this business was being got rid of, Lord Salisbury and Lord Cairns had entered the House, and as soon as the last bill was reached the latter noble Lord crossed the House and said a few words to Earl Granville, the purport of which might be gathered from the fact that the noble Earl, instead of—according to custom—at once moving the adjournment of the House, sat quietly upon the Treasury bench chatting with Lord Halifax and the Duke of Argyll. For some minutes this state of things continued, no business being transacted, and their Lordships waiting in anxious expectation for what was to follow. One or twice Lord Cairns and Lord Salisbury were called out—either individually or together—apparently to resume their conference with the Duke of Richmond and Mr. Disraeli. At last the Duke of Richmond entered the House rather hurriedly, with a paper in his hand, and after a whispered conference with Lord Carnarvon, rose to make the anticipated announcement. Commencing with a suggestion that the second reading of the Army Regulation Bill should be fixed for Monday week, the noble Duke went on to give notice that he should propose to add to the motion for the second reading the following addendum:—"That this House, in assenting to the second reading of the bill, desires to express its opinion that the interposition of the Executive during the progress of a measure submitted by her Majesty to the Legislature, in order to obtain by the exercise of the prerogative, and without the aid of Parliament, the principal object of that measure, is calculated to depreciate and neutralise the independent action of Parliament, and is strongly to be condemned; and this House only assents to the second reading of the bill in order to secure to the officers of her Majesty's Army the compensation to which they are entitled in consequence of the abolition of purchase in the Army." After some demur, the second reading was fixed for Monday, July 31.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The Commons, at the morning sitting, were once more engaged in considering in Committee the ballot clauses of the Elections Bill. When progress was reported, eighteen out of twenty-three sections comprised in clause 3 had been agreed to.

On the House resuming business at night, Sir J. Lubbock submitted a resolution in favour of so modifying the new education code as to give more encouragement to the teaching of history, geography, social economy, and other "extras" in the public elementary schools. After some discussion the resolution was withdrawn.

MONDAY, JULY 24.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Royal assent was given, *inter alia*, to the following bills:—The Ecclesiastical Titles Act Repeal Bill, the Dogs Bill, the Courts of Justice Additional Site Bill, the Owens College Bill, and the Gas and Water Provisional Orders Confirmation Bill. The Private Chapels Bill was passed through Committee, after the clause enabling the Bishop of the diocese to license a private chapel not attached to a public or charitable institution had been expunged, by reason of its involving an interference with the parochial system. The Church Building Acts Amendment Bill and the Bishops Resignation Act (1869) Amendment Bill were read the second time; and the Prevention of Crime Bill was passed its final stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BALLOT BILL.

In Committee on this bill all the sub-sections of clause 3—the specially ballot clause—were got through, and then a general debate ensued on the question that the clause stand part of the bill. The opponents of the measure went over the whole ground of the propriety of secret voting, but in the end the clause was affirmed by 214 to 127 votes.

On the motion to report progress, Mr. WHITBREAD rose to make a suggestion for furthering the progress of the bill, which was to the effect that there should be a short autumnal recess, and that the bill should be taken up again then and pressed on unremittably. This he considered preferable to sending the bill up to the Lords at a time when they could not reasonably be expected to consider it, or to mutilating it by cutting out all but the ballot. The suggestion provoked a long and animated conversation, at the close of which Mr. GLADSTONE said the Government was still firmly resolved to make the settlement of the ballot a portion of the business of the present Session, if they were supported by the majority; but Mr. Whitbread's suggestion was quite compatible with the fulfilment of that engagement. It deserved consideration, but it would be premature to pronounce upon it until there had been ample opportunities for sounding the opinion of the House. The feeling of the House of Lords ought also to be consulted. Moreover, it was not to be expected that the other clauses would take so long as clauses 2 and 3.

TUESDAY, JULY 25.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House sat only for a short time, and the business transacted was confined to advancing a stage a few measures of minor importance.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The early sitting was occupied with the Ballot Bill, the consideration of which was resumed at the fourth clause; and, although there was a good deal of discussion upon various points of more or less importance, and several divisions were taken, such satisfactory progress was made with the measure, that, when the hour for adjournment arrived, the ninth section had been reached. In the course of the afternoon Mr. W. E. Forster pro-

posed that next evening he would state what parts of the bill he intends to abandon.

When the House reassembled, at nine o'clock, Sir C. Adderley obtained leave to bring in a bill to consolidate and amend the laws relating to public health and local government, with a view to carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission which recently reported upon the subject, and of which he was chairman.

Mr. JESSEL resumed the adjourned debate upon Sir R. Palmer's proposal for the establishment of a school of law for the education of barristers and attorneys. The member for Dover, at great length, denounced the scheme as an attempt to establish a gigantic monopoly, and asserted that it had the support of no branch of the profession. Mr. G. Gregory and Sir F. Goldsmid spoke more briefly in a similar sense, and then the debate was adjourned.

Soon afterwards the House went into Committee upon the Sunday Observance Prosecutions Bill, and spent some time in the discussion of its provisions.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 26.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The sitting was mainly occupied with a discussion upon the second reading of Mr. J. B. Smith's bill for the introduction of the metric system of weights and measures. The rejection of the bill was moved by Mr. B. Hope. Mr. C. Fortescue, on the part of the Government, undertook to deal with the whole question of weights and measures next year; and intimated that one of his proposals would be to permit, but not to enforce, the adoption of the metric system. This assurance entirely failed to satisfy the friends of the measure, and they insisted upon taking a division, when the second reading was negatived by 5—82 to 77.

THURSDAY, JULY 27.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

ROYAL MESSAGE.

The LORD CHANCELLOR communicated a message from her Majesty with regard to a provision for Prince Arthur.

Earl GRANVILLE moved that the message should be taken into consideration to-morrow.

THE ARMY REGULATION BILL.

Lord CAIRNS said he wished to give a notice on behalf of the Duke of Richmond, who had given notice of an amendment relative to the second reading of this bill, and was intended to be appended thereto. He understood that doubts had been expressed in some quarters as to the regularity of that amendment; but although he thought it was not without precedent, nothing could be further from the desire of the noble Duke, and nothing could be more undesirable than to have a discussion on a grave constitutional question preface by any controversy upon a point of order. In order to obtain precisely the same result, and without raising a difficulty as to the form of the proceeding, the noble Duke would move the amendment in substitution of the motion with regard to the order of the day. He, therefore, now gave notice that the noble Duke would move the amendment—"That this House, before assenting to the second reading of the bill, desires to express its opinion that the interposition of the Executive in its original form would have created a precedent of a most inconvenient and harmful character."

Earl GRANVILLE agreed with the noble Lord that the amendment in its original form would have created a precedent of a most inconvenient and harmful character. The Petroleum Bill, the Election Commissioners Expenses Bill, and the Church Building Acts Amendment Bill were read the third time and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BALLOT BILL.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER entered into a long statement with regard to the Government intentions as to the Ballot Bill. Beginning with ballot proper, the only clause which the Government proposed to omit was clause 30, which provided a penalty against voters who did not follow the directions for voting. Clauses 22 to 28 of the bill dealt with amendments in the Corrupt Practices Act, and the Government intended to proceed with these clauses, with the exception of clauses 25 and 26. The Government would persevere with clause 27, which prevented election meetings being held in public-houses. Clauses 18 to 21 dealt with charging the legal expenses of the election upon the rates, and these would not be proceeded with until clauses from 22 to 24 had been taken.

Mr. LIDDELL objected to the clauses dealing with election expenses being postponed until after the other clauses of the bill had been considered.

Mr. Gladstone at this juncture appeared at the bar, and brought up a message from the Queen, which was read as follows:—"Her Majesty, being desirous of making competent provision for the honourable support and maintenance of her third son, Prince Arthur, who has now come of age, recommends the consideration thereof to her faithful Commons, and relies upon their attachment to adopt such measures as will be suitable to the occasion." (In a previous message the "House of Lords" had been substituted for the House of Commons.) Mr. Gladstone moved that the message be taken into consideration next Monday. The House then went into Committee on the Ballot Bill, when Mr. Disraeli proceeded to comment upon the statement which had been made as to the intentions of the Government with regard to the clauses of the bill.

THE ROYAL WARRANT AGAINST PURCHASE.

THE following Royal Warrant, dated July 20, 1871, to cancel and determine all regulations authorising the purchase or sale or exchange for money of commissions in the Army, from Nov. 1, 1871, has been presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of her Majesty:—

VICTORIA R.

Whereas by the Act passed in the Session holden in the 5th and 6th years of the Reign of King Edward VI., Chapter 16, intituled "Against buying and selling of offices," and the Act passed in the 49th year of the Reign of King George III., Chapter 126, intituled "An Act for the prevention of the sale and brokerage of offices, all officers in Our Forces are prohibited from selling or bargaining for the sale of any Commission in Our Forces, and from taking or receiving any money for the exchange of any such Commission, under the penalty of forfeiture of their Commissions, and of being cashiered, and of divers other penalties, but the last-mentioned Act exempts from the penalties of the said Acts, purchases, or sales, or exchanges of any Commissions in Our Forces for such prices as may be regulated and fixed by any regulation made or to be made by Us in that behalf.

And whereas We think it expedient to put an end to all such regulations, and so all sales and purchases, and all exchanges for money of Commissions in Our Forces, and all dealings relating to such sales, purchases, or exchanges.

Now, Our Will and Pleasure is that on and after the 1st day of November in this present year, all regulations made by Us or any of Our Royal predecessors, or any Officers acting under Our authority, regulating or fixing the prices at which any Commissions in Our Forces may be purchased, sold, or exchanged, or in any way authorising the purchase or sale or exchange for money of any such Commissions, shall be cancelled and determined.

Given at Our Court at Osborne, the 20th day of July, in the 35th year of Our Reign.

By her Majesty's Command,

EDWARD CARDWELL.

THE TRICENTENARY COMMEMORATION of the foundation of Queen Elizabeth's Free Grammar School at Horselydown was celebrated, on Wednesday, when the Bishop of Winchester presented the prizes and certificates to the successful scholars.

THE EARL OF SHAFTESBURY presided, last Saturday, over a meeting at Miss Faithfull's office, with a view of starting on a co-operative basis an educational institute to counteract the ignorance of women in all relating to household management. A provisional committee was appointed, consisting of Lord Shaftesbury, Lady Alfred Churchill, Mr. Brassey, M.P.; Mr. Mundella, M.P.; Mr. Sims, Sir T. E. Perry, Miss Faithfull, Mr. Bevan, Mr. Peck, &c. The institute will comprise a registry office, restaurant, and reading-room for ladies. Lord Lytton, the Countess of Warwick, Mrs. Alfred Tennyson, the Hon. Philip Stanhope, Mr. Hughes, M.P., Lady Collier, &c., have joined the undertaking.

EDUCATION IN IRELAND.—A numerous deputation from Ireland, on Monday, waited upon Mr. Gladstone, and requested the right hon. gentleman to bring in a measure which should give "educational equality" to the Catholics of that country. The Premier, while admitting the existence of a grievance, reminded his hearers that Irish affairs had received considerable attention from Parliament during the past few years, and that from this cause English and Scotch education had to a great extent been retarded. Having promised that the Government would deal fairly with this matter, Mr. Gladstone assured the deputation that its importance was fully recognised, and that the time would not be long before the question must be fully considered.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.—The corn crops have greatly improved in appearance in Norfolk during the last two weeks. Wheat is now looking well, and upon the deep and warm soils the crops will be heavy. The barleys also promise well. About Newmarket the crops of wheat, barley, and oats promise an excellent yield, and will be a good average in some districts and more than an average in others. Harvest operations are now commencing about Ely with the cutting of oats; the various crops are well spoken of. The weather has been fine and warm on Trentside, and there has been a wonderful change for the better in the appearance of the crops. The potato disease has broken out in Wiltshire and Somersetshire, and like reports reach us from Ireland.



SATURDAY, JULY 29, 1871.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

CAN any human being lawfully own the land? The man who cultivates the soil may justly claim the profits of the cultivation; but is not that the end of his rights? The answer of philosophic thinkers to such questions has never varied. It has been, and still is, a decided negative. There may be reasons of expediency for allowing possession in the soil. For these reasons the laws of a particular country may ratify the possession, and any invader of the legal right may be punished; but everything of the kind is only temporary and provisional. The earth is given for a possession to the children of men, and it can no more be owned in the ultimate sense of proprietorships than the air, the light, or the water. The philosophic *reductio ad absurdum* upon the subject is too familiar not to occur to every reader. If a man may ultimately own an acre of the surface of this planet, he may own ten. If ten, a hundred, a thousand, a million. If a million, a million million. And so on, till the whole of the surface of the planet is owned, and some single proprietor has the right to push off all the rest into space—which is absurd. Therefore, no man can "own" land. Q. E. D.

The argument is what Bacon would have called "a toy;" and, before it could really become anything else, it may be said that we shall have acquired the power of making the crust of the earth elastic or of travelling to the moon and colonising the solar system in general; or, perhaps, that the substance of the asteroids will gradually be added to that of the earth. But, in the meanwhile, the question of space presses rather hardly upon us under the regimen of *laissez faire*. Not that we complain of the regimen, but that there are wheels within wheels. There is a class which from the beginning of the world, so far as we can judge, has been a troublesome one. We mean the children. Charles Lamb is said to have once proposed a health to the memory of Herod. Such things are liable to the suggestion that we were all babies before we were men and women; and, unless the race is to stop, we must undoubtedly think of the well-being of the children. It is true, the old argument "I must live," is, when applied to the whole human race, just as liable to the retort, "I don't see the necessity," as when applied to an individual; but, then, we can neglect an individual, or put him out of the way; but "there is no power in Venice" that could stop the continuation of the human race. So we must provide for the children.

Strange to say, however, it is not supposed to be necessary to resort to any argument of compulsion! There is, among adults in general, a sort of whim or prejudice in favour of children being taken care of and assisted to grow up strong and healthy. It is very remarkable, but such is the fact; and the question of the appropriation of that precise portion of the surface of the planet which is called London has arisen in connection with this whim or prejudice. We are all familiar with the fact that it is not considered desirable that the houses should so narrow the streets—which are a portion of the surface of the planet, however landlords may choose to forget it—that adults can neither breathe in freedom nor move about without danger; and it has from time to time occurred to a few eccentric people that an arrangement of the land in great towns which leaves no room for play-ground for the children is one that cannot long maintain itself. The notion is not quite new; but Mr. Ruskin and Miss Octavia Hill have just put a gloss upon it by establishing a play-place for children in a crowded portion of the north-western district of the metropolis—with, we believe, the very best results. Now we venture to suggest that that portion of the land upon the western bank of the Thames which is in dispute between the Crown and the people could not be better appropriated than by setting it aside as a play-ground for the children who dwell in the Strand, between Hungerford and Westminster—the wretched little creatures who have never in all their lives seen anything more picturesque than the colonnade of Covent-Garden Theatre. Legally, there can be no doubt that the land belongs to the Crown; but a compromise is possible, and, we believe, will be carried out. We are only anxious that, when the land is secured, it should not be made into a fine "garden," where nobody under sixteen can knock about at pleasure. It is the worst of the parks and gardens of London that so much care is taken of the grass, and that the gravel is so bad. Kennington Park is, in these particulars, a model place. The gravel is fine and pleasant, and a large portion of the lawn-land is, or it should be, a free and open play-ground. Let us have these scanty acres on the banks of the Thames. Let them be set apart as a play-ground for children. Let us have a drinking-fountain, with a sheltered walk there. And, since Whitehall murmurs, let us have a thick wall of trees "betwixt the wind" and the "nobility" of Whitehall. Fife House did not complain of the half-naked mudlarks; but if it does not like the idea of poor children at play an eighth of a mile off, let us take care that it does not see them. But let us make sure of the land.

THE UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES are now holding their annual meeting in London.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE QUEEN has conferred the honour of a Companionship of the Bath on Mr. W. D. Christie, formerly Minister in Brazil.

THE PRINCE OF WALES arrived in London, on Monday evening, from Darmstadt. The Princess of Wales and the children are at Kissingen.

PRINCE ARTHUR, on his return from Ireland, will proceed to Aldershot to join the Rifle Brigade, which will leave Woolwich about Aug. 5 for that station, in order to take part in the forthcoming campaign in Berkshire. The Prince will serve during that campaign as Captain of his own company, where the rougher lessons of actual service will be better learned than they would be upon the staff.

THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS OF BRAZIL are on a tour in the provinces, and have visited Birmingham, Liverpool, Birkenhead, and other places.

THE EX-EMPEROR NAPOLEON paid a visit to Baroness Burdett-Coutts, at Holly Lodge, Highgate, on Tuesday.

THE COMTE DE CHAMBORD has just left Bruges for Blankenberghe, near Ostend, where he will pass the summer season.

LORD PENZANCE, it is said, will be one of the paid Judges of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council; and the Attorney-General (Sir R. P. Collier) will succeed his Lordship as Judge-Ordinary of the Probate and Divorce Courts.

SIR THOMAS DYKE ACLAND, BART., died, last Saturday, in his eighty-fourth year. He is succeeded in the title and estates by his son, Mr. T. D. Acland, M.P. for North Devon.

LORD MAHON, M.P., presided, on Monday evening, at a meeting held to consider the desirability of forming a committee of the Society for Organizing Charitable Relief and Repressing Mendicancy in the Poor-Law Union of Lewisham, and resolutions were passed unanimously in favour of the object in view.

THE OFFICIAL RETURN of the polling at the Monaghan election gives Mr. Leslie a majority of 993 over Mr. Butt, Q.C. The numbers were—Leslie, 2521; Butt, 1528.

A TOBACCONIST in Camberwell was fined £10, on Monday, at the Lambeth Police Court, for selling "cavendish" manufactured without a wrapper provided by the Excise authorities.

A COURT MARTIAL to inquire into the circumstances attending the stranding of the Agincourt upon the Pearl Rock was opened at Devonport on Wednesday. The court is presided over by Admiral Codrington.

MR. CARDWELL has sanctioned the formation of a camp of instruction for the artillery volunteers at Shoeburyness during the prize meeting of the National Artillery Association, which begins on Aug. 7.

THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE, which has been in session this week at Manchester, on Wednesday elected the Rev. Dr. James Prescott by 201 votes, Mr. Wiseman securing 196, and Mr. Haydon 46. Mr. Wiseman was afterwards elected secretary by a large majority.

COUNT DE FLAVIGNY, President of the Society for Succour to the Wounded, has awarded 100 bronze medals to English ladies who particularly distinguished themselves by their devotedness and intelligence in the French ambulance.

MR. EDWARD BAXTER, of Kincardine, father of the Secretary to the Treasury, died, on Wednesday, at his residence, Hazelhall, near Dundee. The deceased gentleman was brother of Sir David Baxter, and he has been a successful merchant. He took great interest in the prosperity of Dundee. Deceased was about eighty years of age.

THE CARPET-WEAVERS in several districts of Scotland went out on strike, on Monday, for an advance of wages, and those in the other districts are expected to follow their example.

THE PORTION OF THE THAMES EMBANKMENT GARDENS which lies between Waterloo and Charing-cross Bridges was opened to the public on Saturday. The smaller garden, which lies between the Temple station and the Temple Gardens, is not yet in a fit state to be thrown open to the public.

VICE-CHANCELLOR MALINS made an order, on Tuesday, to the effect that the European Assurance Society had been proved to be insolvent, and that the further hearing of the petitions for winding up should stand over until Michaelmas Term, so as to afford an opportunity of coming to an arrangement which might prevent the expense entailed by further litigation.

TWO GUTTER-BOYS, aged respectively thirteen and eleven years, were, on Tuesday, sent by the Lord Mayor to industrial schools, one for three years and the other for five.

THE WIFE OF ROBERT ELFDOR, of Bodmin, Cornwall, has given birth to three children, all girls, and two of them, with the mother, are making satisfactory progress.

MR. SHORT, a builder at Kingswear, aged sixty, was drowned, last Saturday, while endeavouring to save a young woman who had accidentally fallen into the sea from the rocks near Castle Mount. The young woman was rescued, but Mr. Short's body was not got out of the water until life was extinct.

TWO MEN, NAMED HARRIS AND SMITH, were charged at Greenwich, last Saturday, with having been guilty of disorderly conduct in front of the house of Mr. Ebenezer Pook. Harris was discharged on payment of costs and Smith was fined 40s.

IN THE COURT OF BANKRUPTCY, on Monday, the scheme agreed upon between the creditors of The O'Donoghue and the bankrupt for the settlement of the hon. gentleman's affairs, received the formal sanction of the Court. The bankruptcy will therefore be annulled.

THE LABOUR REPRESENTATION LEAGUE have adopted a memorial to Mr. Forster protesting against the adoption of a provision accepted by the Government in the Elections Bill requiring a candidate to deposit £100 previous to nomination.

A SEVERE THUNDERSTORM, accompanied by brilliant flashes of lightning and a heavy fall of rain and hail, passed over Fifehire on Sunday afternoon. In the district of Lochgelly the electric fluid travelled along the telegraphic wires and entered the village post-office, which was set on fire.

THE PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS of the Select Committee on the Protection of Infant Life are that the registration of all births and deaths should be made compulsory; that there should be a permissive registration of houses in which children are put out to nurse for hire; that a license for such places should be required—the houses to be open at all reasonable hours to police inspection; and that there should be a compulsory registration, together with a license, for all lying-in establishments.

A JOINT COMMITTEE of the representatives of the Caledonian and North British Railways have, it is announced, arrived at an amicable settlement of the differences between the two companies with respect to competing traffic, and have made arrangements for a considerable reduction in the number of trains between Glasgow and Edinburgh and a division of the passenger traffic.

THE CORPORATION OF ROCHESTER are about to proceed with the laying out of the castle gardens for a public garden, and to perform certain works at the castle itself, which will form a great attraction to the place. Tenders are sought for the work, plans having been approved, and a good sum has been subscribed towards the cost of the work.

MR. WILLIAM HENRY BROWNRIGG, a solicitor, was shot at near Bray, in the county of Dublin, last Saturday, by a contractor named Green. Mr. Brownrigg is agent to Mr. Jackson, J.P., and the occurrence took place in connection with the dispossession of Green from a holding. Mr. Brownrigg was wounded in the hand and his servant in the collar-bone, but neither is seriously injured. Green was arrested and committed for trial.

A REPUBLICAN BANQUET has been celebrated at Madrid, at which toasts were given which are said to show a remarkable change of feeling in favour of order. A subscription was also instituted for members of the party under arrest, among whom a lady was named (Senora Perin), who had been condemned for a seditious publication.

THE AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP OF THE THAMES was rowed for, last Saturday, between A. de L. Long, of the London Rowing Club, and W. Fawcett, of the Tyne-mouth Boat Club. The latter, after a splendid struggle the whole way, won by a bare half-length clear at the finish.

AN EX-GOVERNMENT CLERK at Deptford Dockyard, named Pinhorn, was, for the fourth time, brought up on Tuesday, before the Greenwich Magistrates, on a charge of having embezzled three several sums, received by him on account of the Lords of the Admiralty, amounting altogether to £654 13s. He was committed for trial.

THE EXCHEQUER RECEIPTS from April 1 to July 22 amounted to £20,113,058, an increase of £660,167 upon the return in the corresponding period of last year. The expenditure has been £22,858,473. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £751,028; and in that of Ireland, £1,002,088.

FORTY-TWO SOUTH LONDON TRADESMEN were, last week, fined for having unjust weights and measures in their possession. The number included fourteen chandlers, five each of grocers and coal-dealers, three each of bakers, butchers, and greengrocers, two each of cheesemongers and dealers, and of tripe-dealers, dairymen, corn-chandlers, marine-store vendors, and eating-house keepers there was one each. Ten had been previously fined, and in two cases the full penalty was inflicted. The total amount of fines was £50 17s. 6d.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

I HAVE seen something of amateur actors, and, necessarily, something less of amateur playwrights. The result of such experience is a fixed belief that, of the two classes, the latter are more promising than the former. Sir Charles L. Young's second venture, a comedy-drama called "Charms," played at the QUEEN'S, on Wednesday afternoon, strengthens my conviction. Every man is an amateur playwright, and is really one of the "unacted" until his piece, whatever it may be, is produced in the common order of theatrical events. The audience of Wednesday last was, as a matter of course, mainly, if not entirely, composed of persons disposed to be friendly to the new dramatist, who may, very possibly, soon hear himself spoken of as the possessor of a "gifted pen."

Sir Charles writes dialogue much above the average, and he is an inventor of pretty conceits that would tell with any playgoers having souls above burlesque. In this comedy-drama—the title of which, by-the-way, is not particularly close in its application—there is no striking novelty as regards plot. The motives which are supposed to actuate the virtuous and vicious creatures of Sir Charles Young's brain are clear and tangible, and this is something to the good. Human nature, we are all told, is infinite in its variety, but it is uncommonly difficult to discover any fresh types available for stage uses. A benevolent, fatherly old clergyman, the Rev. Mr. Bertram (Mr. Maclean); Arthur Medwyn (Mr. Lin Rayne), a weak-minded young man, who deserts the pastor's daughter in favour of an adventuress and rouge-et-noir; a fine manly young fellow, Philip Frere (Mr. George Rignold), who condemns this snobbish behaviour; a mysterious, heartless blackleg, one Count Rochegune (Mr. William Rignold); and the Hon. Henry Rhyl (Mr. C. Fenton), a gentleman continually talking politics, are the chief personages in the piece. It contains two very strong and effective situations, one at the close of the second act, and the other at the end of the third. So far as my experience goes, the situation which brings down the curtain on the second act is new. If not precisely so, it is exceedingly natural, and is skillfully led up to. The "effect" is brought about when Amy Bertram (Miss Marie Henderson), satisfied of Arthur Medwyn's perfidy, requests him to take the engaged ring from her finger. He hesitates, and in a moment after finds it thrown at his feet. The incident is simple enough in itself, but it is just what a high-spirited girl would do, and is a touch of nature certain to meet with a response in the quarter most desired.

The evil genius of the feminine gender is the Marchesa Toriano (Miss Bessie King), who, at the command of the worst of husbands, lays herself out to captivate the opulent Arthur Medwyn, and does it. In the fourth act there is a capital scene between this sham Marchesa and Amy Bertram. The interest, strong throughout, though not novel, is well sustained. There are other characters introduced, which have little to do in working out the story. They are Sir Stephen and Lady Glendinning (Mr. C. H. Stephenson and Mrs. Leigh Murray); Captain Rooker, a gambler with a small fragment of heart left (Mr. Gresham); Mrs. Pudsey Todd (Mrs. C. H. Stephenson); Laura Glendinning (Miss Rose Lisle), and Louise (Miss Fanny Haldane). Louise has nothing to do but to sing a song; and, notwithstanding this was done very prettily by Miss Haldane, Louise is altogether superfluous. The comedy-drama was fairly acted. Although I think Mr. George Rignold's Philip Frere was the best thing in it, there were other impersonations scarcely inferior.

There are undoubtedly many good points in Mr. Blanchard Jerrold's new comedy, called "Cupid in Waiting," recently produced at the ROYALTY, but it is spoiled by its amateurishness. It is a very excellent thing to be able to write smart and telling dialogue, but without some notion of construction, some story to tell, some character to develop, the best dialogue in the world goes for nothing. The clever talk in "Cupid in Waiting," and it is extremely clever at times, is swamped by the poverty of invention in the play and the overwhelming improbabilities which are suggested at every turn. Mr. Jerrold could not have sketched out his plan before commencing to write. It is a dramatic boat, built without any lines whatever. The first act is a noisy farce, and there is not an attempt at comedy till the curtain has fallen for the first time; but when the comedy does come, it arrives in such a crude form that it is scarcely welcome. Like most modern comedy-writers, Mr. Blanchard Jerrold deals in contrasts. We do not get the young couple love-making under a tree and the old couple snarling on a felled oak, but we have the virtue of the lower orders pitted against the dissipation of the middle classes. Though the virtuous Job Score, waiter at the "Homely Muffin," thinks nothing of robbing the ladies at that hotel in order to decorate the dirty head of Liza, the cook-maid, we are taught to shut our eyes to the peccadilloes of Job Score when contrasted with the villainy of Augustus Sweetboy, who, cheated into a marriage and bullied by a fiendish mother-in-law, forgets the devotion of his wife, lacking the moral courage to face the world without a penny in his pocket. He leaves his wife to the care of her mother, and deserts his home for America. The wife leaves home at the same moment in search of her husband, and is supposed to be a year finding him in the little back parlour of Job Score and Eliza, the virtuous working-folk. The virtue of the reconciliation is positively melting. The story should be transferred to one of the illustrated periodicals destined for the amelioration of the working classes. Miss Kemp acts very prettily, and Mrs. Tellett thoroughly understands the character with which she is intrusted. Mr. Forrester is very good in the sarcastic scene with his mother-in-law, and Mr. Arthur Williams is an adept in the art of making wry faces. He is no nearer an actor than that. Miss Fanny Leng is, next to Miss Eliza Johnstone, the best "slavery" (I beg pardon for the expression, but that is exactly it) on the stage.

Mr. H. J. Byron's version of the delicious romance of "Giselle," at the OLYMPIC, will, no doubt, suit the purpose of the theatre—that is to say, amuse the audience for the odd half hour before leaving. It would be difficult to praise too highly the pretty and effective art of Miss Farren in the principal character. She expresses verily the poetry of motion, and there are no burlesque actresses to compare with Miss Farren in the apparently difficult task of speaking burlesque or extravagant lines with point. Mr. Byron's extravaganzas is a queer mixture of pantomime foolery, of witty puns, of music-hall songs, of idiotic dances, of false noses, and tasteful ballet; and if it will not be remembered as one of the author's happiest efforts, on account of Miss Farren it will certainly be remembered.

Mr. Walter Montgomery—who has not forgotten the art of advertising, and who, with Mr. John Hollingshead, talks a great deal of inconsistent stuff about the "legitimate drama"—stars at the GAIETY for a few weeks when London will be empty and the weather far too hot for theatres. We shall see what we shall see; but whether the speculation is a successful one or not, the question of the higher drama remains exactly where it was.

Most of the best theatres, such as the Prince of Wales's and Court, are closing for the summer.

MESSRS. HALL AND SON, gunpowder manufacturers, were charged at Faversham, on Monday, with several breaches of the law in respect to their business. Mr. Poland said, an explosion having occurred on the works of defendants, by which a person was killed and several were injured, the attention of the authorities was called to the matter, and Captain Magendie was sent down to inspect the factory. As a result of his report the present proceedings were taken. Convictions were obtained. Leave was, however, given to take the matter to a higher court.

THE FAMINE IN PERSIA.—The *Levant Times* publishes a letter from Teheran, dated July 9, in which it is stated that the state of Teheran is most heartrending; cholera, famine, and typhus are decimating the population, and it is impossible to procure bread. At Isfahan and Shiraz the state of affairs is still worse; the inhabitants are reduced to eat their own children, and the Governor of Shiraz has been compelled to place a guard on the cemeteries to prevent the unfortunate peasants from disinterring the recently-buried bodies for food. Finally, the plague has broken out. The members of the British Embassy and the telegraphists have taken refuge in the mountains. The foregoing is partly confirmed by a letter from the English Consul General at Tabreez.

THE ALEXANDRA PARK.

THOUGH calculated, from its situation and otherwise, to be a convenient as well as agreeable holiday resort for dwellers in the north and north-eastern districts of the metropolis, Alexandra Park has not been a very successful speculation. An effort is now being made to infuse new life into the scheme, so a little information about the place may be of interest.

THE BUILDING AND GROUNDS.

This building is situated on the highest part of the park, commanding on all sides most extensive, varied, and beautiful views of the surrounding country, views unrivalled by any other locality near London. The building is erected partly from the material of the late Exhibition building at Kensington, designed to make it appropriate to its new situation and purposes. The general plan consists of a nave 900 ft. long and 85 ft. wide, a centre transept 430 ft. long and the same width as the nave, and two shorter transepts, each 320 ft. long, the same width also as the nave, and intersecting at a short distance from each end. There are therefore three points of intersection of the nave and transepts. The centre is erected over it a great dome, which is 170 ft. in diameter and 220 ft. high in the interior, appropriately panelled and decorated, light being admitted near the top and by lunette windows at the sides. At the intersections of the shorter transepts with the nave are pendentive octagon cupolas supported on slender columns, lighted by windows in the sides. The ends of the nave and three transepts are terminated with large circular or rose windows, decorated with stained glass. On each side of the nave and transept are erected buildings about 50 ft. wide and two stories in height. These have brick external walls, with arched openings and windows, and form extensive galleries next the nave and transept. The ground floor, on the south-east side, will be almost entirely devoted to refreshment and dining rooms, of various sizes and classes, opening by French windows to a verandah overlooking the terrace beyond; and in the basement beneath are such extensive and complete cellar and kitchen arrangements as will insure a first-rate and hot dinner for private parties, and general convenience and perfection in the refreshment department for large numbers.

Other arrangements—such as news, reading, writing, and coffee rooms, library, museums, picture-galleries, sculpture, plants, and flowers, &c., are all considered, together with many things tending to the entertainment and comfort of the public; and a grand organ, the most powerful and complete in England, will form the centre of an orchestra for musical performances on a grand scale. The building will be thoroughly lighted by gas, in an ornamental and brilliant manner, for evening promenades, &c., and will always be maintained at a genial and agreeable temperature. The interior is elegantly decorated throughout in coloured ornamentation, and will be filled with objects of beauty and interest, arranged in spaces so as not to interfere with the grand avenues for promenade. Externally, the end of the nave and transepts present eight grand façades, flanked by supporting towers, containing the large windows and entrances. These façades are united by the walls of the lower buildings, two stories in height, and by the clerestory walls and roof of the nave and transepts, and the whole is terminated by bold cornices and ornamental parapets. The general character of the architecture of the exterior is Italian, and consists principally of brickwork in colours, with stone dressings and ornamentations. Above the roofs, in the centre of the building, rises a bold tambour, terminated at the top by a simple balustraded parapet and a standard-mast 50 ft. high. This dome and the octagon cupolas at the smaller intersections are decorated with moulded ribs and panelling in bold relief. On all sides of the building are formed handsome and spacious terraces, on which, and the ornamental slopes adjoining them, stand many large and handsome trees, giving relief and effect to the building. The terrace on the north-west side, which will be 1000 ft. long and 160 ft. wide, supported by Italian arcades, will cover a noble railway station, from which access will be had directly to the building at the ends of the three transepts, and to which station all the railways of London will ultimately be brought. There will also be covered carriage entrances at the ends of the nave, communicating by an easy drive with the public roads.

Adjoining the building, and commanded by the southern slope of the hill on which it stands, is the racecourse, with a grand stand replete with all conveniences, and the largest in Europe. There are also cricket and archery, &c., grounds, with their appropriate buildings and accommodations. The extensive park is laid out in agreeable carriage drives, walks, and avenues, interspersed with flower-gardens.

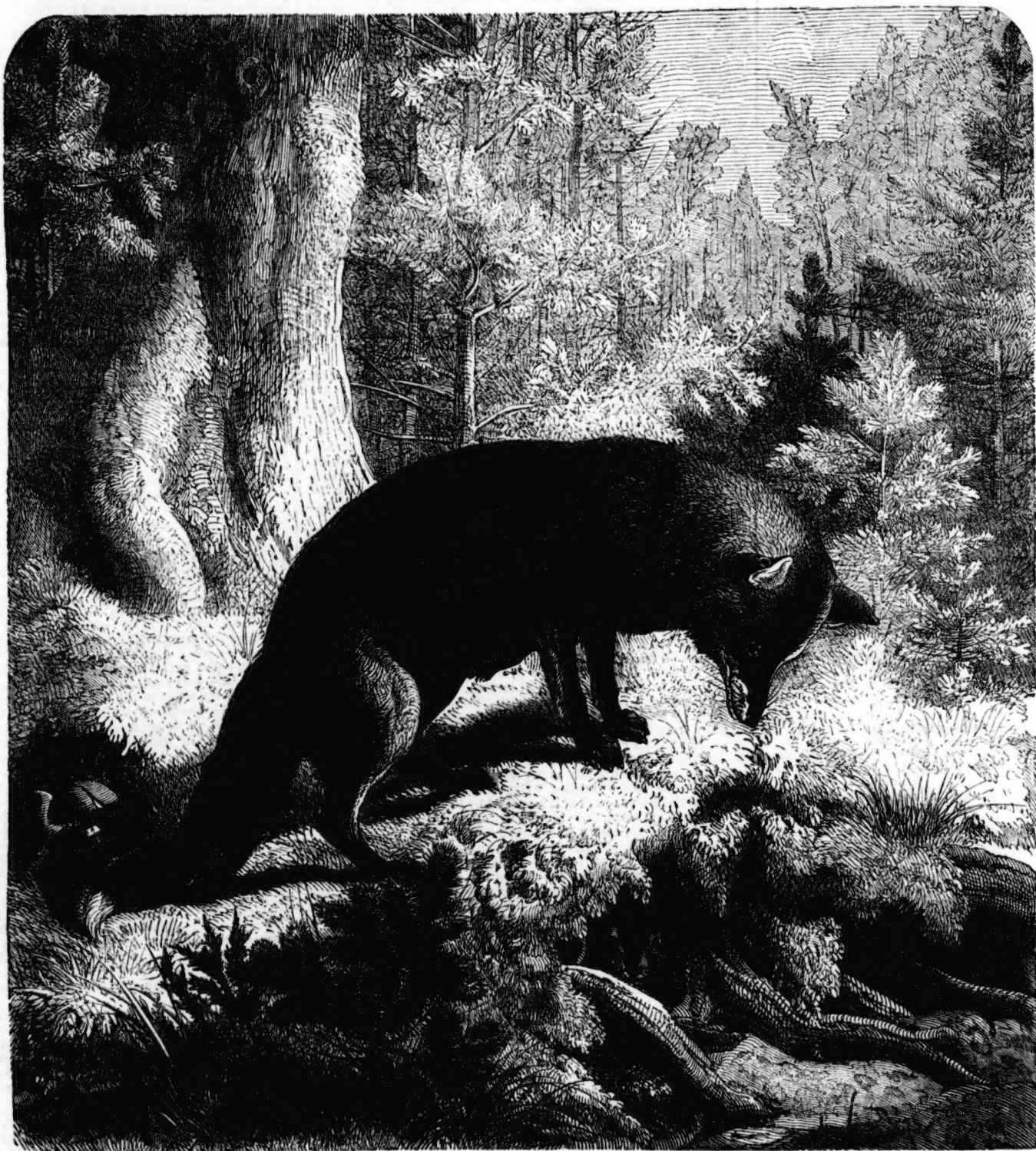
THE GRAND ORGAN.

The magnificent organ, now in course of erection in the north transept, is of gigantic proportions. It was constructed by Mr. Henry Willis, the builder of the celebrated organs in the Albert Hall at South Kensington, and in St. George's Hall at Liverpool. It possesses five claviers, four for the hands and one for the feet. There are 101 stops, eighty-seven of which are sounding stops. All the inventions of modern times have been introduced to render this instrument perfect, and the result is the attainment of a volume of sound, articulation of speech, imitative character, perfect quality of tone, and precision of action in its mechanism, that has never until now been realised. The wind is supplied by two steam-engines placed in the basement, and remote from the organ itself. The instrument is governed by various contrivances for varying its powers and qualities of tone. Amongst these are the pneumatic pistons for the hands, each clavier possessing six. There is also a complete system of combination pedals, acting precisely as those in the grand organs recently erected in the cathedral at Notre Dame and the church of St. Sulpice, at Paris. The pedal organ contains four stops of 32 ft., three of which are open. The front elevation is designed by the builder, with architectural developments and details by the architects of the Alexandra Palace. The largest pipe in front is 40 ft. long and 2 ft. in diameter, and is the metal representative of CCCC (the only metal pipe of that note near London).

A NUMEROUS DEPUTATION of the inhabitants of Hampstead waited upon the Metropolitan Asylums' Board, last Saturday, and asked for the removal of the Smallpox Hospital to a more isolated site. It was alleged that the health and the lives of the people of that part of London were endangered by the presence of this institution. The board promised to give the memorial the best consideration in their power.

SIR ALFRED SLADE writes thus in reference to the Sunday Observances Act:—"One of the principal clauses of the new Sunday Observances Act now passing through the House of Commons is that no prosecution under the Lord's Day Act of Charles II. shall be made without the consent of the police. It appears hitherto to have escaped the notice of the House of Commons, but I hope will not escape notice in the Lords, that the fines levied under this Act are payable under the Police Act to the Police Superintendant Fund, making them, therefore, peculiarly interested in putting the Act into force. How very objectionable, therefore, it will be to give the police this power must be evident to everyone."

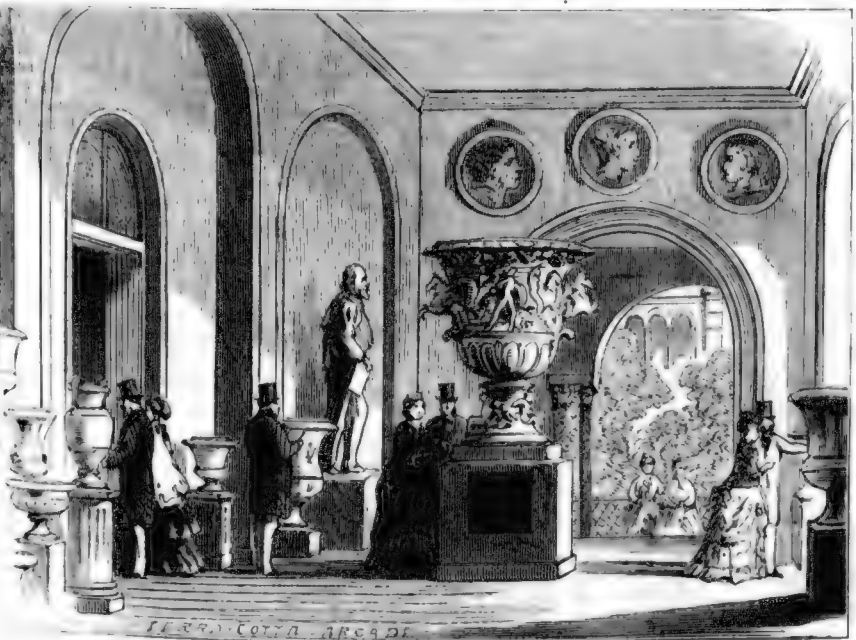
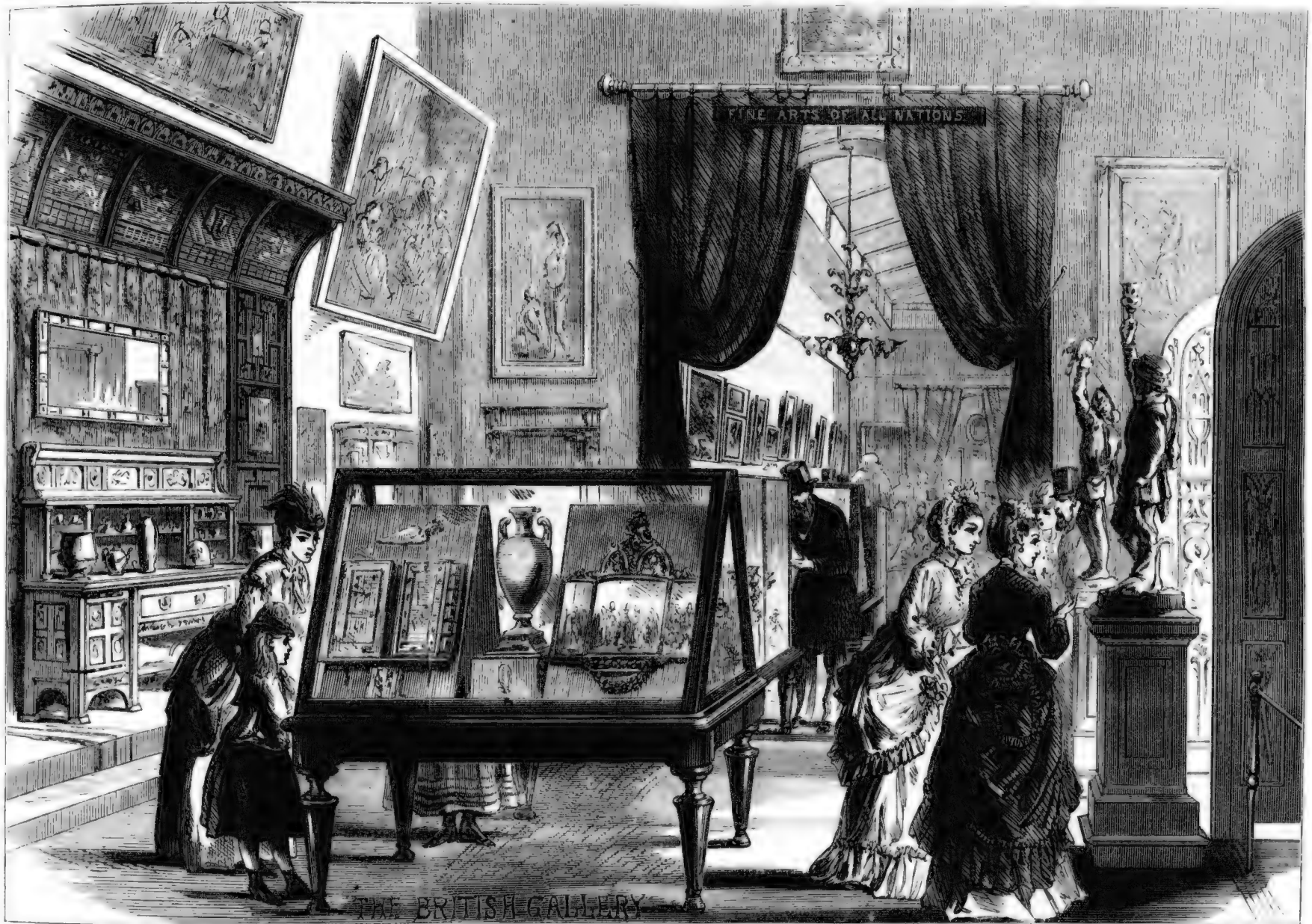
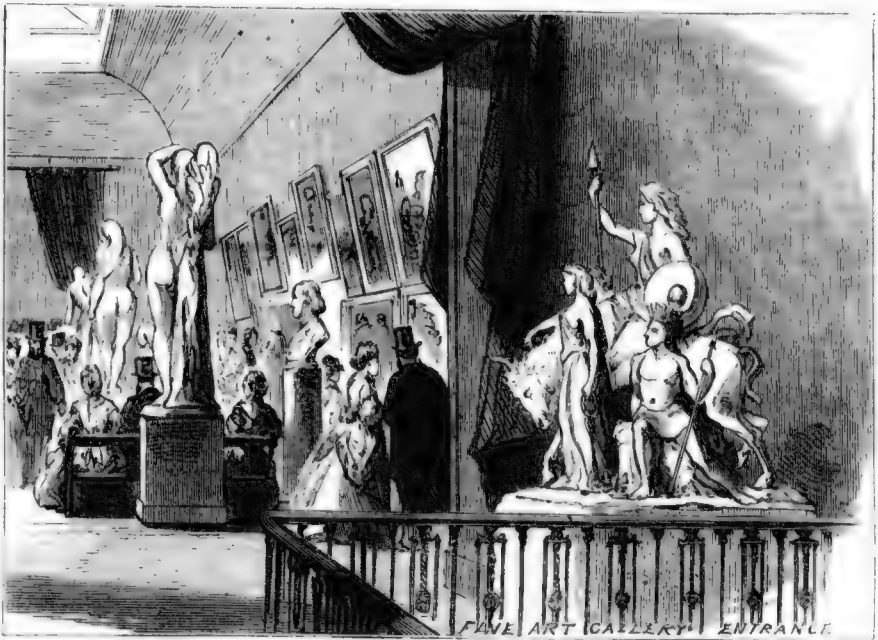
THE SCOTT CENTENARY AT EDINBURGH.—The arrangements for the national festival are progressing in a way which exceeds the most sanguine expectations of the promoters. The assemblage at the banquet will contain a number of lords-lieutenant and conveners of counties, noblemen of Scotland, and the provosts of many of the towns, besides ladies and gentlemen well known in art, science, and literature. Deputations will be present from the corporations of several of the towns of the north of England, and also from the Caledonian Societies of London and Liverpool. The Speculative Society of the University, of which Walter Scott was secretary, will be represented by a deputation. Replies will be made for the foreign visitors by gentlemen from the United States and other countries, who have been deputed to attend the celebration. The Very Rev. Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster, will take part in the proceedings. Sir J. Noel Paton has executed and presented to the committee an elaborate design for a memorial card for the celebration. The card is to be presented to each member of the company on retiring, in exchange for the ticket of admission, with the view of being framed and kept as a memento of their presence at the festival.



REYNARD WAITING FOR DINNER.



SCENES AT PARIS AFTER THE SIEGE: RUE PEYRONNETT, NEUILLY-SUR-MARNE.



SKETCHES AT THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

THE INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION.

WE this week publish some Engravings representing scenes connected with the fine-art department of the International Exhibition; and we cannot better illustrate these scenes than by giving some description of the pictures exhibited.

Barry, the painter, expressed himself strongly on the class of pictures sent to England in his time (1774), which he regarded for the most part as the refuse of Europe. Now, of course, this is not the case with our imported works of art. We have the best that can be got for money, and many on loan, without expense beyond that of house-room. Many of the latter would be dear at any price. Even at the International Exhibition a good many indifferent pictures have crept into the collection, which nobody will deny who has passed through the rooms of the courts of all nations. One would have anticipated nothing of consequence from France; but, with the aid of English friends, the French committee have done wonders, all things considered. The Italians, from whom much might have been expected, have, on the contrary, done considerably less than they might have done to sustain their high position in the world of art.

All will be pleased with Gordigiani's picture of "La Bella Giardiniera." She is a charming woman, with a taste for dress. Her robes consist of a gauze-like fabric with blue stripes, varied by slashed sleeves of yellow silk. The drapery is admirable, so much so as to dispute with the face in beauty and interest, notwithstanding that the painter has an eye for form and for a handsome countenance. Another Italian picture of a more ambitious character is by Tancredi. This composition has for subject an incident in the life of Buoso da Duira, betrayer of Manfredi, King of Naples. Buoso returns a beggar to his native country, where he is recognised and treated with ignominy. We behold him in the shade of a corner of some public square recognised by the populace, who manifest their contempt for him in an unmistakable way. All this the artist has forcibly depicted in his dumb show, and with such force of gesture as people who are deaf and dumb might employ to make themselves understood. The colouring adds to the interest of the work; but modern Italian colouring is, as a rule, very unlike the old. The great gift of design yet remains to Italy; but her painters, as far as we know them, when compared with the old Venetians in colour, are as children in their knowledge and appreciation of its mystery and loveliness.

In referring to the pictures in the foreign courts we recommend the visitor to take first the number on the picture-frame, and then the corresponding number in the catalogue, otherwise he will soon grow confused, and make a tangle of what he intended for pleasure. The arts department is supposed to contain the contributions of all nations. We would rather be spared the task of separating them. We take the pictures as they come. Some of the contributors must have been under the impression that if they worked with a big brush they would be taken for great painters. We have some canvases covered with figures in a style that slightly reminds one of half-vacant wall-paper decorations. We pass them by for works of real excellence and not too extensive. We begin with one called "Field Labourers," a recollection of Italy, by Hennebicq, of Belgium. These labourers are tilling the stubborn land with a kind of spade. Like Italians, they labour in company, no doubt for the convenience of conversation, without which no Italian contadino can proceed in any kind of employment with comfort to himself or profit to his employer. "Sad News" is the title of one of those heart-rending pictures in which the Belgians indulge, after the example set by Israels, who has a similar composition at Burlington House this season. The work to which we now refer at the International Gallery is by Bource. It is simply the arrival at a cottage of two hardy mariners, who come to tell the young wife that her husband is drowned at sea. The unconscious child continues to play with its toys, the girl of some eight years flies to her mother's arms, on whom the news falls like a thunderbolt. The grandfather, worn with years and toil, tries to collect his thoughts. Such pictures may remind us of our duties to those who place their lives at the mercy of the wild waves, otherwise we might dispense with any more pictures of "Sad News" from Belgium. We could never understand why nearly all the Continental landscape-painters see Nature only in her more sombre moods. It is a pleasure to announce an exception in Kinderman's picture of "A Rapid on the Lesse," in which the fresh, bright, dancing waters sparkle in sunshine as if by magic. Not remote in the same room we come upon a contrast, by Montigny, entitled "Winter," in which the leaden-hued sky serves to forcibly relieve a waggon and team of horses, especially the grey horse, which stands out life-like. These wintry skies grow troublesome. In another somewhat large work, by Verlat, called "The First Snow," the dark grey again does duty to relieve the snowflakes. The sheep in this picture, which are almost of natural dimensions, are painted with great spirit. An attractive landscape will be found in a view at "Prayon, near Liège," by Van Luppen. A study of the landscapes by Rubens would improve this painter's manner, which is now wanting in that exquisite transparency which is so distinguishing a feature in the works of the elder master. Van Luppen "suffers too much white to glide into his shadows," and hence his pictures have a certain opaque look which we should be sorry to see in English landscapes. But for this defect, the picture of "Prayon" is most pleasant. Clumps of trees are mirrored in a pool of still water bountifully fringed with wild water-plants, consisting chiefly of docks, burdocks, and flags, all truthfully depicted. A kind of mist pervades all the field where Lier, the Bavarian painter, has laid the scene of his "Potato Harvest." Peasant girls are mostly employed in this work of unearthing and of collecting the potatoes. Lier has clearly gone to nature for the materials of his picture. This is evident in the rendering of the docks, and thistles, and other plants and weeds, which are shrivelled up and collected on the dry, barren foreground. We have a gloomy coast from another Bavarian painter named Tiesenhausen. The view includes part of "The Bay of Wierkim Easthonia, Baltic," where the sands are broken up by huge fragments of rock, and the waves and breakers are anything but friendly. This is a good example of wave-painting. The touch is free and expressive of the rude elements of which the scene is composed. Weichberger, of Saxe-Weimar, is clever in landscape. He sends a pleasant scene, "On the Brook in Thuringen," a verdant dell, where the waters hide in dark places under overhanging trees, and ever and anon break forth in light and loveliness. A boy and some goats are included in the composition, which would have been better without them. The trees are rendered with much freshness and force. The leafage has a juicy look; the trunks look as if they had sap in them.

Rosa Bonheur affords us a glimpse of a dark covert in "The Forest of Fontainebleau," where red deer and their young find shelter and repose: where dense masses of foliage almost make night of noonday. Another instance of a clever gloomy landscape will be found in Daubigny's view on the "Banks of the Oise." A gloom that is infectious pervades all the scene. Yet every inch, whether of water, earth, or air, has a strong feeling of nature in it. The sluggish river, the lonely banks studded with yellow flowers, the willows, and the lurid sky, combine to depress rather than cheer the spectator. This gruesome feeling is appropriate enough in the dungeon-like scene by Delaroche, where "Marie Antoinette" leaves the chamber of judgment after her condemnation. The form, the bearing of the Queen are right royal; and her countenance, when compared with that of the old fishwife with one tooth, who curses the high-born lady, is very eloquent. The face of the young girl, blubbered up with sympathy, which finds expression in tears, adds to the interest of this noble composition. Daubigny is more at home in "Twilight" and moonlight than in cloudless daylight. His "Moonlight—Picardy" is characteristic of the tragic genius of the artist. The pale sky is inlaid with jagged patches of ebon darkness, whence the distorted moon looks down on a sheepfold and farm-house. Shepherds leave the fold, bearing off a sick lamb. The picture is a powerful piece of work; but very cheerless of aspect is the scene as realised by D'Aubigny.

"Coming Out of School," by Edward Frère, is an old favourite. The number of the boys, the variety in character they represent, the awkward way in which they severally encounter the difficulties of the slippery steps of the old house, are depicted with the truth and vigour possible only to Frère, who knows more about children than any other painter, not excepting our own Webster. In this instance a gloomy day and a cheerless abode are made tolerable by the cheerful presence of the boys, who rush down like a torrent into the highway. "St. Cecile," by Delaroche, will be welcomed as a contrast with the same painter's picture of "Marie Antoinette" referred to. Here the most charming of all saints in the calendar is attended by angels whom she has enticed by sweet sounds from the skies. Whether we regard this celebrated work for its perfect drawing or for its pure conception, its ideal graces, or for the chasteness of its tints, we are alike astonished. Many excellences are here combined. Nevertheless, the picture has little interest for ordinary mortals who gaze upon it. Were we asked to judge between the spectator and the painter in respect to this want of sympathy and interest, we might be led to say that the fault is in the former—in the worldling.

There is a picture by Regnault, representing an "Execution in a Moor's Palace," which in its features of horror will suffice to satisfy the voracious epicure in this way. We must decline to satisfy morbid curiosity by describing this picture. It will arrest the attention of every visitor to the east-side room. Many who are attracted by its tragic features will be inclined to regret its presence in the gallery.

The merest glance at the contributions of English artists will suffice to reveal the variety and excellence of our art-treasures. Several exhibitions like that now open at Burlington House would be required from which to cull so perfect an assemblage of paintings. Oil-colour and water-colour artists are alike strong in representative works, among which are masterpieces of distinguished artists known to all who have been constant in their visits to the Royal Academy.

The galleries are adorned with works of art in the form of sculpture, which, to our thinking, afford a pleasant relief to the unbroken lines of pictures on the walls. We should like to see the experiment made of putting statues in the picture galleries of the Royal Academy. The effect would be grand, and we doubt if individual pictures would suffer by the presence of marble. The plan of arranging the works of our sculptors in rows and in heaps on a stall is a bad one for the sculptors, whose works are thus made to appear like so much merchandise in a shop, rather than as refined conceptions would be presented by the tasteful owner of a noble palace.

REYNARD WAITING FOR HIS DINNER.

It is a little difficult to make up one's mind whether to treat this picture as a capital bit of characteristic natural history or as a kind of satire; for, to tell the truth, the artist—who surely must be a small copyholder in some place to which the land scheme for Ireland has not been applied—calls it "The Cunning Bailiff Spreading his Tablecloth." Perhaps in his native place the words land bailiff and fox may be synonymous—not as a reflection on the bailiff, but as an additional reproach to the fox—and the meek-eyed, timid rabbit, sitting munching contentedly in his holding, may represent the tenant. This at once places the locality a long way from the Emerald Isle, where the holder bears no resemblance whatever to the rabbit, either in personal character or in a natural genius for drainage works; for, in truth, a rabbit-burrow is a very model of land drainage, and, though the improvements are not calculated to benefit the next owner, they are, in their way, remarkably adapted to the purpose. It may be feared, however, that the present bunny is only a squatter, resting in a convenient hole till he can make a claim of tenure for a space in the warren. There is a gleam in Reynard's eye that is more like a reference to the history of human nature than to natural history; and this may be the real meaning of a very excellent pictorial fable.

THE WIMBLEDON MEETING.

The principal prizes won at Wimbledon during the previous fortnight were distributed, last Saturday afternoon, in front of the Grand Stand, by Princess Louise. A dais under a pretty marquee was erected for the Princess and her suite opposite the centre of the Grand Stand, facing which the handsome trophies, challenge cups, and other prizes were effectively displayed. The prize-winners, in full uniform, were paraded to the left of the marquee, and were called to the front by Lord Ducie, who did not, however, follow the custom of Lord Elcho and explain the prizes and introduce the winners. This made the spectacle less interesting than usual. One of the first inquiries on such an occasion is, "Who is who?" and in future it would be well to have a list of the winners, their scores, and the value of their prizes printed for distribution. As it was, speculation was rife as to the identity of some of the winners, and applause was often given under a misapprehension. The English eight, the Winchester boys, the Canadians, and Ensign Humphry (the Queen's prize man) were loudly cheered; and the Canadians seemed particularly pleased at the attention shown to them by the Princess and with the hearty reception given to them by the public generally. Each of them was presented with a little badge as a souvenir of their visit to Wimbledon. Though the weather threatened to be unpropitious, the Grand Stand and inclosures were well filled. The ladies were clad in the lightest of summer attire, and the gay uniforms and flags, bunting and scarlet cloth, made an unusually pretty sight.

It was close on five o'clock before any signs of the commencement of the review were visible. The clouds which had gradually crept over the blue sky were dropping lower and lower, and by the time the troops were ready to commence the rain began to fall. Frequenters of the camp know full well that "it never rains but it pours" at Wimbledon, and the rain last Saturday was of the old character. For about half an hour the storm was more or less violent, and when at last the sun broke forth again the plateau was covered with a thin sheet of water. The rain, however, soon sank, and then the ground, the troops, and the spectators began to steam as if they had been drenched with hot water, and this and the smoke which hung on the ground interfered somewhat to mar the spectacle. The review was continued without interruption, and the spectators were rewarded with unlimited noise and smoke, which lasted nearly two hours. The troops were divided into an attacking and a defending force, and a mimic battle was gone through. The former force was made up of three brigades, the first of them being composed of the 4th, 16th, 50th, and 99th Regiments of the Line. The second and third were brigades of volunteers, and attached to this division, which was commanded by Major-General Lysons, were the 12th Lancers, E battery B brigade Royal Horse Artillery, and the A battery 14th brigade Royal Artillery. The other division represented a defending force, and consisted of the 10th Hussars and four brigades of volunteers, under the command of Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. General Airey held the chief command, the reviewing officer being his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. At the conclusion of the manoeuvres the Duke, with Earl Spencer, K.G., attended by a brilliant suite, rode to the saluting-point, facing the Grand Stand, and the march past commenced. Princess Louise and the Marquis of Lorne occupied the Royal box. After the regular troops had marched past, the volunteers followed, led by Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar; and Prince Arthur, in the uniform of hon. Colonel of the London Irish, acting as Aide. The drenching rain made some of the volunteers look rather unhappy, but they mostly looked tolerably smart. The St. George's appeared rather woe-begone in their new astrakhan busbies; it seemed as if the rain had washed the dye out and it had trickled down their faces. Altogether there were about 8000 volunteers and 3500 regulars on the ground. When the crowd began to disperse, the main thoroughfares of the camp were quickly turned into Sloughs of Despond, and ladies and

gentlemen were in a deplorable plight. The crowd, finding little to amuse them in the camp, and being wet, soon started for town, and there were fewer people in the camp after dusk than usual on a review night.

TICKET-OF-LEAVE WOMEN.

NEARLY 4000 female criminals are at large with tickets of leave. The majority live in London. A very large proportion consists of hardened offenders. More than one is a murderess. Women who have been sentenced to death for murder, and whose sentence is afterwards commuted into penal servitude for life, are not, as is commonly supposed, removed for ever from the scene of their criminal exploits. After having served a term of twelve years and conducted herself to the satisfaction of the prison authorities the convicted murderess easily obtains her ticket of leave and becomes a free woman again. In one of the western and most fashionable districts of London many hundreds of domestic servants are ticket-of-leave women. Several of them have run through the entire scale of crime, from petty larceny up to burglary and murder. Their employers engage them with a full knowledge of their antecedents. Strange to say, the worst criminals are not unfrequently transformed into extremely good domestic servants.

During the past five years some benevolent ladies have voluntarily devoted themselves to care for and, if possible, to reclaim the lowest and most degraded class of female convicts. For this purpose they resolved to form a society called the "Discharged Female Prisoners' Aid." The object of this society is to supply a home to released convicts, to assist those to earn an honest livelihood who have given proofs of amendment, and to furnish employment to all the released female prisoners who will comply with very easy conditions, and who will work for their maintenance. Several of these establishments have been founded in various districts of London. The parent establishment best merits description.

Near to the Nine Elms station, and adjoining a bridge over the South-Western Railway, is a brick house, standing within an inclosure, which has evidently seen better days. On one of the gateposts are inscribed the words "Registry for Servants." Over what had been the entrance to the kitchen are painted these letters "D. F. P. A." The interior of the house is rather dreary and uninviting. There is no trace of luxury in the appointments. On the left hand of the entrance-hall is an uncarpeted room, in which several wooden chairs are placed in rows, giving to it the look of a school-house in a poor neighbourhood. Here instruction, chiefly of an elementary religious kind, is imparted to adult women by ladies who eschew preaching or lecturing, and confine themselves to imparting religious truths to those of their sex who are not only degraded in character and appearance, but are morally no better than heathens. On the right is the office of Miss Lloyd, the zealous and indefatigable lady superintendent. It contains two small writing-tables, a few wooden chairs, and cupboards filled with printed forms, tracts, tickets of leave, and prison photographs of female convicts, these photographs being affixed to documents like passports, and containing particulars of the names, ages, and personal traits of the faces represented on the margins. Appropriate texts of Scripture, written in large letters on strips of paper, are pasted on the walls of these two rooms. In the office is a placard with the heading "Nine Elms Laundry," and underneath it are the following rules:—"The inmates of this house are women who have undergone penal servitude, and on discharge from convict prisons are received here to earn a character. Inmates must do all the work required of them in order to earn their food. No intoxicating drink allowed. Inmates can have no money in their possession. Purchases can be made to the extent of each woman's allowance, at the discretion of the Superintendent. Inmates are only to go out and come in by leave of the Superintendent. Any women coming in intoxicated, or refusing to obey the rules, will be summarily dismissed."

At the back of this house, in what had formerly been a good-sized garden, are long iron sheds, in which clothes are disinfected, washed, mangled, and ironed. In the space left vacant the wet clothes are dried when the weather is fine; when rain falls they are dried in artificially-heated chambers. The clothes of families suffering from infectious disease are washed in a shed set apart for the purpose. The washerwomen are female convicts who have been discharged from prison. Some of the women reside in the house, but the majority of the workers come at eight o'clock in the morning and go away at six in the evening, bringing their dinners with them. Tea is provided in addition to their wages. These women earn, on an average, 1s. 6d. a day. A lodging can be obtained for them at a place in connection with the home at the cost of fourpence. Thus they are able, if they please, to maintain themselves, with the prospect of improving their condition should they conduct themselves well and give promise of continued amendment. The work performed is of a twofold character. On the one hand, regular and not unhealthy employment is provided for the women who, on leaving prison, cannot easily find any means for gaining an honest livelihood; on the other, the difficulty which the poor experience in getting washing done at home is overcome. For the small sum of 6d. the dozen articles the soiled clothes of the poor are here disinfected, if necessary, are washed, mangled, ironed, and made ready for being worn again. In other districts the same work is being performed, through means of the same agency. It is highly appreciated by the poor. They readily purchase washing tickets, and thankfully accept them as gifts.

Enough has been said to explain the machinery of this movement for benefiting alike the very wretched and the very poor. Let us turn to the women themselves who labour over the washing-tub, at the mangle, and at the ironing-board. The least pleasant work is allotted to the least worthy. The newly-discharged convicts are set to wash the clothes of families smitten with typhus, scarlet fever, smallpox, or other infectious disease. The danger of infection is not very great; still there is danger. Before being placed in the washtub the linen is put into a large metallic trough which is filled with water impregnated with carbolic acid. This process is conducted in the open air. The clothes are exposed for a considerable time to the action of the solution of carbolic acid, and a stream of water is then made to pass over them. The lady superintendent's great desire is to have a disinfecting chamber in which the foul garments could be well baked as well as thoroughly disinfected by chemicals; but funds are wanting to provide this. In the washhouse and in all the working-rooms of this establishment silence is enjoined by inscriptions on the walls. This rule appears to be well observed when the superintendent is present, and the industry of the women at the same time appears highly laudable. A forewoman who, after serving a long period of penal servitude, had given tokens of amendment, presides over and directs the workers. Her conduct may be meritorious, but her ways are rough. She told us how, on the morning of our visit, she had effectually cleared the furnace-flue of soot by putting gunpowder in the grate and igniting it. The workers are of all ages, are slatternly in attire, and they have the appearance of those who have fallen so low as to have ceased to care how they look. Most of them have bloated and blotched faces, which unmistakably betray a passion for spirituous liquors. All have an extraordinary similarity of expression. They have an animal look in their eyes. A heaviness of feature is common to them all. If the faces of these women were dyed a copper colour, and if they were dressed in the nondescript garments of a female Ute, or Shoshone Indian, they would pass for genuine savages. In reality, they are not much better. Very few can read or write. Of religion and morality they may have learned something in prison; but, at the best, their ideas on these subjects are very hazy. Their only divinity is the policeman. If they can evade his clutches, or beguile him by some tale of deceit, they are perfectly satisfied. To ask them to abstain from committing murder or robbery either because the crime is a sin or is a breach of the law, is to appeal to sentiments which are dormant or non-existent. They can be tamed by kindness, like the lower animals. When the ladies who are trying to civilise these outcasts speak to them

about religion, they sometimes receive strange answers. The Bible narratives affect them as interesting stories, much in the same way that a book of fairy tales impresses a child. Such a remark as the following is a sample of what occurs at the readings which these ladies give daily. A new comer, who had not even heard that there was such a book as the Bible, interrupted the speaker and said, "I don't wish to offend you, Miss; but I don't believe a word of that." The subject was the account of Elijah. In their own peculiar fashion, they are very grateful for what is done for them. Many have children, who are also taken care of by these ladies. A mother, hearing the remark made that, as the weather was improving, it would be well to get some cotton print wherewith to make summer frocks for the children, offered to provide a piece. The superintendent, amazed at the proposal, made by one whose own garments were in rags, asked how she could perform what she proposed. The reply was that she knew a shop where she could easily steal a piece, as she had often done before. Had she stolen the piece without being detected, she would have thought she had been clever; had she been found out and punished, she would have admitted that she had done wrong.

The saddest and most disheartening part of the case is, that the difficulty of reforming the younger women is almost superhuman. The re-convictions of females are much more numerous than of the males. Moreover, the women profess to enjoy thoroughly the wild career of crime. After conducting themselves with perfect propriety for a year or longer period as domestic servants, they will suddenly leave their places and resume their old habits, or, in their own slang, "have a fly." One of them, being remonstrated with for her conduct, replied with emphasis, "Oh, Miss; but there's a great deal of life in it." Planning and performing a robbery is as exciting and agreeable to these women as a picnic party or a ball is to fashionable young ladies. Just as the sensible young lady ceases to care for parties as she grows older and takes pleasure in more useful pursuits than the vain chase after pleasure, so does the elderly female convict frequently lose her liking for the excitement of crime, and become a model domestic servant. Experience proves that the percentage of those permanently reclaimed—that is, 10 per cent.—is drawn almost exclusively from the older offenders. The young girl, if reasoned with, replies that when older she will try to be good, but that she is determined to "have her fling" meantime. This is a female version of the wild oats theory, which, when practised by young men of fortune, is not unfrequently accepted as thoroughly sound and satisfactory. The shortness of the terms of punishment occasions many of the relapses. A girl will often admit that a longer term would have done her good. An inmate of the home has been convicted twenty-four times since Christmas. The longer the sojourn in prison the more habituated do the convicts become to sobriety and order, and the more easy is it to deal with them when the day of release comes.

The bloated faces of these women have been noted. This is the index of their special failing. In hardly a single case is the fondness for spirituous liquors not a cause of degradation and a hindrance to reformation. If it were possible to keep these women habitually sober, it would be comparatively easy to render them useful members of society. So long as they remain in the home they are docile and obedient. The danger is lest, on leaving it, they taste strong drink and relapse into their old state. More than one girl who gave promise of being turned from her evil ways has been transformed into a criminal under the influence of a glass of gin. Herein consists the problem which the ladies who conduct this home have to solve. Its solution does not terminate with the women themselves. Many of them are mothers, and their children appear to inherit an abnormal taste for vice. Attempts are being made to rescue the children; but the mothers manifest reluctance to part with them. The ladies report:—"It is with great difficulty that we can prevail on these women to give their little girls out of their hands; and it is with dismay that we note that it is not a mother's love that induces them to withhold them: it is a cruel thirst for profit through their means when they shall themselves become incapable of ministering to their own wants." "The mothers are insensible to our sense of their guilt. Some smile at us; many are quite annoyed at our suggestions. Some have violently resisted our attempts to rescue their own daughters from debilement." Notwithstanding these impediments, many children have been preserved from a cruel lot. Since this part of the mission was undertaken, forty-nine children have been separated from mothers who were not supporting them by honest labour. Twenty-three have been restored to mothers who have abandoned crime and intercourse with criminal companions. Good situations have been found for the older girls. The task of dealing with the younger children is very trying. They are sadly precocious in wickedness. The ladies say that "at twelve months they have come to us relishing intoxicating liquor from which ordinary babies would shrink. In very tender years they are familiar with horrible forms of vice. They are adepts at thieving almost as babies, and in language and habits express much that is distressing. Their health, too, is very deteriorated."

The foregoing narrative of facts, calculated to startle while informing the public, may be briefly summarised. In London, at this moment, thousands of female criminals, at large with tickets of leave, are almost certain to swell the ranks of the dangerous classes unless rescued and reformed by the society whereof the objects and operations have been described. That society, working in concert with the police authorities and under the sanction of the Home Office, has organised a system which affords timely and effectual aid to convicted female criminals, and also confers a vast benefit upon the industrious poor of London. Were the sphere of the society's labours widened, an increased amount of good would be wrought. The ladies who have originated the movement conduct it. Lack of funds wherewith to meet the necessary expenses is the chief obstacle to the extended success of the undertaking. In case any of our readers should feel disposed to help to remove that obstacle, we may add that Mrs. Meredith is the honorary treasurer, and that her address is "Nine Elms House, 6, Upper Belmont-terrace, Wandsworth-road, S."—*Daily News.*

THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM TRADE.—The growth of the American petroleum trade is of interest. The first export of this article was in May, 1862, when 10,000 gallons were sent to Antwerp, and the total export, which was 1,500,000 gallons in 1860, had grown to 99,281,000 gallons in 1868, and 141,208,153 gallons in 1870. The home consumption of petroleum is estimated at one half the amount exported, which would make the aggregate consumption in 1870 about 211,000,000 gallons, which, at the average value of 20c. per gallon, would be worth over 42,000,000 dolrs. In December, 1867, the daily average products of the Pennsylvania petroleum region was 10,400 gallons, while in December, 1870, it had increased to 15,214 gallons, a larger daily production than at any time previously. Yet ten years ago petroleum was comparatively unknown to commerce.

SERGEANT HOFF.—The readers of the literature of the first siege of Paris will doubtless remember the celebrated Sergeant Hoff, the idol, at one time, of the Paris population, and afterwards, by an untoward fate, the object of all their abuse. He was a moody soldier, was Sergeant Hoff, whose days and hours, in the first month of the siege, were spent in gloomy and silent thoughts of revenge for loss of parents and relatives, whom he averred had been murdered by the enemy. He was the hero of every man's tongue. Daily tales came into Paris of Sergeant Hoff's exploits and of the number of Prussian helmets he brought back from solitary and silent incursions made upon the enemy's posts. "Each night the question on the boulevard was, 'What news of Sergeant Hoff?'" One day, however, the sergeant disappeared, to return no more; and for a moment besieged Paris became inconceivable, but only for a moment. The fate of all those who temporarily disappear from their circle followed the mysterious sergeant. Backbiters began to hint that there was an easy explanation of the Prussian helmets he used to bring in from his raids, and that, instead of being an avenging foe, he was simply a spy to M. Bismarck. Then, indeed, the tide of hatred against the absent man's reputation, and all Paris spurned the idol of yesterday. From that time to this Sergeant Hoff has been unheard of. No sign was made to anyone of his life. But last week he again appeared in Parisian circles, giving the practical lie to his enemies by his return from captivity, but still moody, and still, and uncommunicative as to the past, thus adding one other illustrious confirmation to the numberless fables of spies and spymen.

EPPING FOREST.

THE story of Epping Forest affords ample evidence of the evils that result from public apathy in the matter of recreation-grounds. The rights of the Crown have sometimes been exercised in direct opposition to public interests, and at others have been suffered to fall into abeyance, with equal or even greater injury to those interests. The rights of lords of manors have been exercised in opposition to rights of commoners, and the rights of both these parties have been trodden under foot by private adventurers; and in every case the great public have suffered. A great forest has dwindled away, the lands have been filched right and left, and have also been legally inclosed, where a little display of public spirit might have prevented the inclosure and secured to the great public a legal claim to their enjoyment for ever. The story of Epping Forest affords a most pointed, but also most painful, commentary on the adage that what is everybody's business is nobody's business; and while the cause—if we may call it such—of outdoor public recreations has been slowly forming and taking rank with other causes of a cognate kind, forests and commons everywhere that should be open to public use have been privately appropriated, and in most cases are simply lost, utterly lost, now and for ever. Epping Forest was fast on the way to complete extinction, and the public only sighed, and grumbled, and made an occasional feeble demonstration in the way of a public meeting that led to nothing at all. But an accident has occurred which promises to result in an arrest of the process, and the saving of what little remains of that once noble playground for the perpetual enjoyment of Londoners. The Corporation of the city of London, by the purchase of an estate for a cemetery at Ilford some years ago, acquired common rights over the forest lands at Wanstead, and in behalf of the public interests they have engaged in a legal contest with Earl Cowley, the lord of the manor, to arrest the felling of timber and the inclosure of land. How the litigation will end no one can say, but the representatives of the Corporation announce the readiness of that body to bear any amount of expense in waging the holy war; and for the present we must, in respect of that particular case, be patient and wait for the issue. But it is clearly made evident that it rests with the great public, and not with any local corporate body, to protect and advance its own interests in respect of public recreation-grounds; and so profoundly important is the subject that it would justify a house-to-house visitation in the metropolis, if any respectable and responsible body could be found or formed to undertake the task, with a view to diffuse information, elicit expressions of opinion, promote a growth of sympathy, and though last, not least, obtain funds for a systematic crusade against all impediments to the free enjoyment of lands that are really adapted for public use, as well as for purchase of lands for the formation of new pleasure grounds. Public bodies can only proceed so far as they are supported by their constituents in the expenditure of moneys that represent taxation. Voluntary agency has a wider range, and need not be restricted in its action by any injuriously hard boundary lines. We are depending too much on administrations that are fettered, instead of upon agencies that are free. Immense agencies are called into exercise for the persuasion of men to abandon drinking and the rest of the great catalogue of vices peculiar to towns, but substantial antidotes to vice are scantily provided; for it is the fate of philanthropists to trust to preaching and repressive laws, rather than to the persuasions which are available in the way of wholesome recreations, everywhere placed within easy reach of the people.—*The Gardener's Magazine.*

PROPOSED REMOVAL OF COVENT-GARDEN MARKET.

ON Tuesday a special meeting of the Market-Gardeners, Nurserymen, and Farmers' Association was held at the Bedford Head, Maiden-lane, Covent-garden—under the presidency of Mr. H. Meyers—to consider the question of removing the business of Covent-garden Market to Farringdon Market. The meeting was a large one, and the proceedings of an excited character. The chairman and several speakers addressed the meeting, and from their statements it appeared that the refusal of the Duke of Bedford to afford proper accommodation to the stall-keepers, whereby they suffered considerable loss, was the cause of the present movement. The consequence of his Grace's refusal was that in wet weather the stalls were flooded, the water standing five or six inches on the ground; hence the fruit became useless, and, having been thrown aside, found its way to the barrows and baskets of the costermongers, by whom, in its half-decayed state, it was retailed in the poor districts, creating diarrhoea and other diseases among the humbler classes. One speaker, who was corroborated by others, said that Mr. Gye, the lessee of the Royal Italian Opera premises, had asked the permission of the Duke of Bedford to open the Floral Hall as a fruit and vegetable market—offering at the same time to indemnify his Grace against the expense of alterations and to pay 25 per cent on the tolls. His Grace, however, refused the offer. Under these circumstances the market gardeners and stallkeepers felt themselves compelled to look out for some other place. Application had been made to the Corporation respecting the site of Farringdon Market. The plans of the proposed improvements at the latter place, prepared at the instance of the Markets Committee of the city of London, by their architect, Mr. Horace Jones, were laid on the table and inspected by the meeting. The chairman then read a letter he had received from Mr. Bontems, of the architect's office, Guildhall, stating the Markets Committee were not quite prepared to speak definitely as to the question of rent, but, when ready to do so, they would ask the association to meet the committee. Mr. Potter, living at Farringdon Market, was in favour of having the new floral and vegetable market closer to the new meat market than Farringdon Market was. Mr. Rudkin, common councillor, explained the plans, and assured the tenants of the old (Farringdon) market that the Corporation were not antagonistic to their interests. The interests of the old tenants would be the first to be considered. There was a larger area in Farringdon Market than in the other suggested site, and if the site between the railway and the new meat market were fixed on, the streets in the neighbourhood must be widened to accommodate the additional traffic, and the stall-keepers would have to pay the cost. At present Farringdon Market was almost a dead letter in the hands of the Corporation, as it brought them in only £350 a year. It was intended to lower the market to a dead level with Farringdon-street, and to do the same with Stonecutter-street, just leaving an incline sufficient to carry off the water. As to rent, he could say in his individual capacity—not pledging the Corporation—that the rent would not exceed that paid in Covent-garden. Within a month he thought the Corporation would be able to provide the needed accommodation. After further discussion, a deputation consisting of five vegetable-growers and five florists was appointed to wait upon the City Markets Committee as to rent, tolls, &c., and to report to a future meeting.

On Wednesday, at a numerously-attended meeting of the inhabitants of the ward of Farringdon Without, a long discussion took place relative to the proposed removal of Covent-garden Market, and the enlargement and improvement of Farringdon Market, as proposed by the City authorities, through their architect, Mr. Horace Jones. In the absence of Alderman Sir James Duke, Deputy Butcher presided. Mr. Henry Potter, of Farringdon-street, moved:—"That, in the opinion of this wardmote, it will be more expedient to expend the sum proposed for the reconstruction of Farringdon Market in building one between Farringdon-road and the Meat Market." Mr. Ansell seconded the proposition. Mr. T. Rudkin, a member of the Common Council and markets committee, addressed the meeting at some length in support of the plan promulgated by the markets committee, and suggested that the wardmote should refer it to a committee consisting of their representatives in the Court of Common Council and twelve inhabitants in Shoe-lane, Stonecutter-street, and the locality interested, to consider the subject in all its bearings; and he promised them the assistance of the markets committee of the

Corporation if they desired any information on the subject of the improvement. After further discussion the suggestion of Mr. Rudkin was adopted, with the exception that the twelve members of the committee, in addition to the members of the Common Council, were chosen generally from inhabitants of the ward.

THE IRISH RIOTS IN NEW YORK.

LONG accounts of the Irish riots on the 12th of July anniversary appear in the New York newspapers of the 13th inst. The following extracts will convey a sufficient notion of the scenes enacted:—"A few minutes before twelve o'clock the drums of the 84th Regiment were heard, and, thinking that the procession had arrived, the rioters made a rush towards Broadway. The leaders yelled fiercely, and as the head of the column wheeled into Prince-street it was greeted with hooting and hissing. Some yelled, 'Break 'em up, boys, they're Orangemen!' while others said, 'Let 'em alone, they won't fire on us.' The crowd, however, pressed on the head and sides of the column so fiercely that the officers beat the people back with their swords, and the men lowered their bayonets. The Orangemen formed in line in Twenty-ninth-street, at two o'clock. Their number was about ninety persons. The excitement both within and without the lines of the police greatly increased at the sight of the troops. In about half an hour the column was formed, and began to march. The windows of the houses in the vicinity were occupied by people overlooking these preparations. The approach of troops had been greeted with faint cheering from some quarters, heard loudest when the 22nd loaded their pieces with ball cartridge; but a sullen stillness generally prevailed. The Orangemen were pale, but determined. Officers of police and militia hastened to and fro, regulating the movements of the forces, showing as they did so a consciousness that serious work was before them. As the Orangemen wheeled into the avenue, a shot was fired from the south-east corner of Twenty-ninth-street. It took no one by surprise, for more were expected. The column moved on, and again from the corner of Twenty-ninth-street another shot was fired. From near Twenty-sixth-street stones were thrown at the procession. Then it seems that a general street fight was begun. The troops were warm with excitement; the police hustled all bystanders off the side-walks, with merciless clubbing in many cases; and all along the line orders were shouted to the people looking out from their houses to close their windows. Detachments of police made forays into the side streets, driving back the angry mob, and arresting numerous Hibernians carrying pistols and other weapons. When the Orangemen were opposite Twenty-fourth-street the column halted for a moment. Immediately after the halt a shot was fired from an upper story of a building at the north-east corner. Simultaneously shots were fired at the 6th Regiment from near Twenty-fifth-street, on the same side of the street. The 84th Regiment received the first shot, and in the confusion of the moment many of the men aimed at the windows, as if expecting orders to fire. In an instant one gun was discharged, and then followed an irregular volley along the line of the 6th, 9th, and 84th Regiments, a few men loading and firing a second time. So sudden was the occurrence that the officers were taken by surprise, but as soon as possible they rushed among the men to stop firing. The firing of the 34th Regiment was chiefly directed at the upper parts of the house whence the attack had come, but the side-walk was swept also.

"As soon as the smoke cleared, nine bodies (one of them that of a woman) were seen lying extended and still upon the pavement in front of the house. The right wing of the regiment being advanced about twenty-five yards beyond Twenty-fourth-street, the men in that part of the line fired across the side-walk at the south-east corner of the street and the avenue. For a few moments the roar of guns was incessant. On all sides were shouting and the sound of breaking glass, partly from bullets and partly from the frantic efforts of the people to break into the stores. Finally, those in front dashed through the plate glass of a restaurant, tearing their hands horribly. The door was speedily torn open, and the whole mass pushed in and rushed forward to the back of the saloon, where there was a small side kitchen. The firing over, there was a pause of several minutes, during which a further attack of the Hibernians was awaited, while the troops were brought to 'attention,' after reloading their guns. No regard was paid to the wounded and dying for several minutes. The terrified citizens were afraid to venture out of their houses, and none of those escorting the Orangemen could advance beyond the lines to give relief on account of the imminent danger that other shots would be fired by the infuriated mob, and that the militia would renew their wild volleys.

"Before the eyes of all these lay eleven bodies. Two or three were piled together as they had fallen. A dead woman was stretched across a dead man. A man with a fearful wound in the head which covered his face with blood writhed in agony for some moments, and then slowly crept to the doorstep and feebly strove to raise himself on it. An aged working man, evidently an Irishman, received a shot in the arm, and sat down upon the step and faced the troops in the midst of the firing, while holding his bleeding arm extended before him. He remained till relief came, fixedly glaring in silence at the Orangemen. A lad crouched against a cart-wheel just beyond the corner in Twenty-fourth-street, appearing to have received some hurt. The women appeared at the windows above making signs of anguish and bewilderment, looking alternately down at the bodies and then at the troops and policemen. At last, when the mob had been driven far back in the side streets, the work of removing the dead and wounded began. The column remained at a halt. General Varian, indignant at the action of the 84th Regiment in firing without orders, ordered it to the rear and brought up the 9th to take its place on the left of the Orangemen. The procession then moved on. The passion of the mob appeared to have greatly subsided. The line of march was through Twenty-third-street to Fifth-avenue, down the avenue to Fourteenth-street, through Fourteenth-street to Union-square, thence down Fourth-avenue to the Cooper Institute. The movement to the Cooper Institute was unattended by any incident except frequent singling out and arresting of armed and scowling Hibernians. The stores and saloons were closed all along Broadway, the proprietors dreading the paroxysms of mob violence. The Orangemen quietly disbanded here, doffed their regalia, and were soon lost in the crowd.

"The greatest excitement prevailed at Belle Vue during the entire afternoon. The four ambulances in possession of the hospital, together with four commissary waggons, were placed in readiness early in the day, and upon the first intimation of trouble were at once sent to the scene of the conflict. The ambulances soon began to arrive laden with victims of the riot. The dead were taken at once to the Morgue, and either placed in coffins or laid upon the marble slabs. The hospital was the scene of continual surgical operations during the afternoon and evening. Long rows of cots presented a series of mangled and bleeding bodies. The scene at the hospital and the Morgue about sunset was one of peculiar sadness. A ghastly spectacle was presented at the station-house in the neighbourhood. At the sixteenth precinct station, West Tenth-street, thirteen dead bodies were found in the hall. Among the number was the body of a girl about twelve. About a hundred persons were shot and wounded, including nine soldiers of the regulars and a number of women.

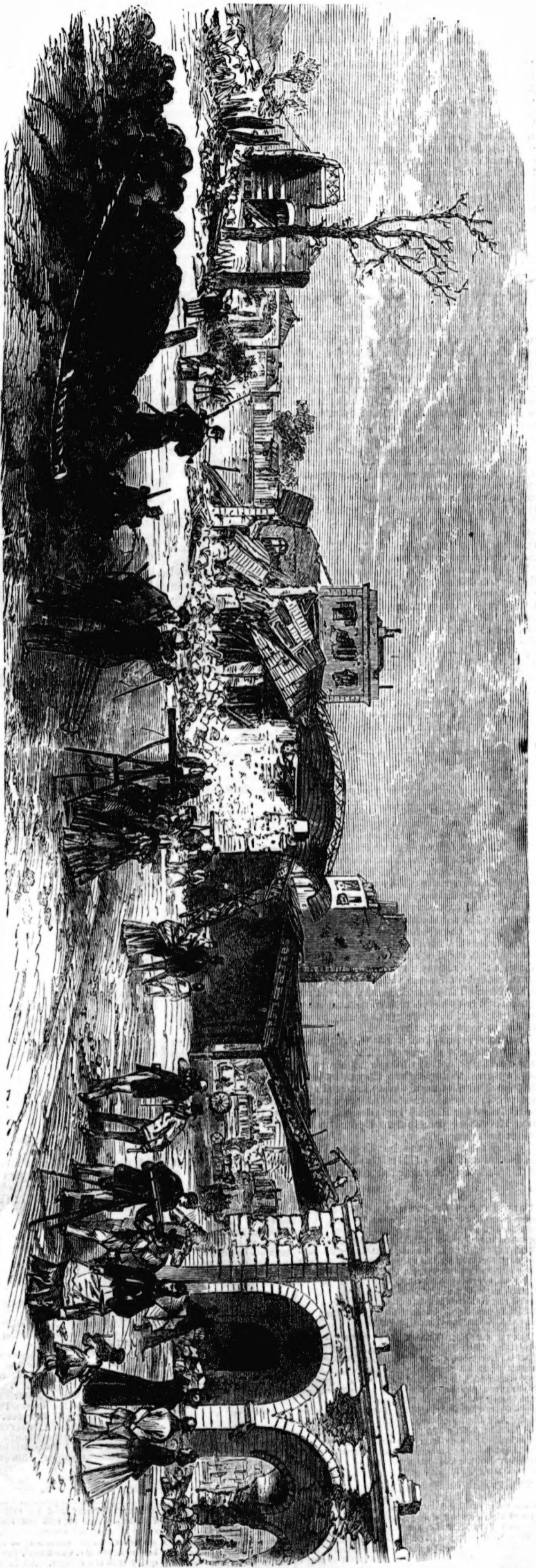
THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.—At Wednesday's meeting of the London School Board it was stated that the sum of £100,000 would be required on account of the twenty schools already authorised by that body to be erected, and it was resolved that application be made to the Education Department for authority to borrow that amount. Professor Huxley brought up a second report on the scheme of education, and gave notice of a motion for the purpose of giving effect to it. A discussion of some length ensued upon a motion by Lord Sandon providing for the use of prayer and hymns in schools established by the board. A general opinion in favour of some such provision was expressed, and ultimately Lord Sandon's resolution was adopted, with modifications.



PARIS UNDER THE COMMUNE: LAST MOMENTS OF ARCHBISHOP DARBOY AND HIS COMPANIONS.—(SEE PAGE 52.)



DIGGING OUT CORPSES ON THE QUAYS.—(SEE PAGE 52.)



THE RAILWAY STATION AT AUTEUIL AFTER THE SIEGE.—(SEE PAGE 52.)



THE CAMP AT SAVOY: RELASING PRISONERS UNDER PRECAUTIONS.—(SEE PAGE 52.)

MUSIC.

THE Royal Italian Opera closed, on Saturday last, with a performance of "Dinorah," in which Madame Patti, Signor Bettini, and Signor Graziani sustained the principal characters. There was a crowded house, and much applause testified to no ordinary gratification. After the opera, "God Save the Queen" was sung in chorus, and thus ended the season of 1871—a season of remarkable success for the manager and his troupe, but one of very little value from a musical point of view. On the preceding evening "Faust" had been given for the benefit of Mdlle. Sessi, who undertook the rôle of Marguerite. Contrary to general expectation, her effort proved a fair, if not a brilliant, success. It was, of course, known that Mdlle. Sessi would sing the music well, her vocal facility being equal to almost any requirements; but fears were entertained that, in a part which requires to be acted, she would achieve simply a fiasco. Mdlle. Sessi, however, showed a depth of feeling and a power of intense expression in the later scenes of the opera which must have been no slight surprise to those who had narrowly watched her previous efforts. She elicited much applause from a gratified house, and may fairly be said to have advanced her reputation in no slight degree. Signor Naudin essayed the part of Faust, M. Faure was Mephistopheles, and Mdlle. Scacchi was Siebel.

"Fidelio" attracted the lovers of classical opera to Drury Lane on Monday, and a good performance sent them away supremely content. Mdlle. Titens once more did perfect justice to the great rôle of Leonora, being in splendid voice, and in the mood to put forth her highest efforts. Of late years, certainly, the "Invocation to Hope" has not been given with so much power and grandeur as by this gifted artist on Monday, and the immense applause elicited was richly deserved. Not to dwell upon a performance so familiar, we may say that Madame Sinico appeared in her old part of Marcellina; that Signor Rinaldini was Jacquinio; Signor Vizzani, Florestan; Signor Agnesi, Pizarro; Signor Foli, Rocco; and Signor Caravoglia, Il Ministro. Each artist did well, and the ensemble was reasonably perfect. The great overture to Leonora was played between the acts, and encored with one voice. On Tuesday Mdlle. Marimon reappeared as Maria in Donizetti's "La Figlia." Traces of recent illness were apparent in a slight deterioration of voice and in the obvious labour required to get through the work. Mdlle. Marimon, however, showed great "pluck," and never sustained the character with more animation or with a greater display of comic verve. Her reception, after so many disappointments suffered by the public, was not encouraging, but she soon conquered the audience, and won recall after recall. The other parts in "La Figlia" were filled as on previous occasions. "Robert le Diable" appeared in the bills for Thursday; and to-night the lovers of "La Sonnambula" are promised another repetition of that opera. On Tuesday next "Anna Bolena" will be given, for the first time these twenty years, and on Saturday the theatre will close.

The students of the Royal Academy of Music made their annual display on Saturday last, in Hanover-square Rooms, the prizes for the year being distributed at the same time by Mrs. Gladstone. A very long programme revealed both the strength and the weakness of the Academy, making plain, for example, that we must not look to Tenterden-street for vocalists. Of all the students who sang only one, Miss Ferrari, gave promise of ultimate success; the rest were "nowhere." On the other hand, several good pianists came forward. Miss Channell, Miss Baglehole, and Mr. Kemp are young artists from whom much may reasonably be expected. With composers the Academy is pretty well furnished, and one young gentleman, Mr. Wingham, revealed ability of no common sort in two movements from a MS. symphony. The orchestra, conducted by Mr. John Hullah, was a very poor affair—badly drilled and indifferently led; indeed, the concert, as a whole, fell below what might reasonably be expected of an institution such as the Royal Academy of Music. Mrs. Gladstone did her part in the ceremony of prize-giving very gracefully, and was loudly cheered both before and after the accomplishment of her task.

The miscellaneous concert season being over, we have little to record, save certain musical doings at Albert Hall. Organ performances have taken place every day this week—the executants being Mr. Best and one or two distinguished foreign artists—while the Swedish military band has played at intervals, to the satisfaction of large audiences. On Wednesday took place the sixth and last of the concerts given by the Society of Arts in aid of a proposed national training school for music. Sir Michael Costa again presided; and again a programme of "odds and ends" was gone through to the satisfaction of a miscellaneous audience, if not to the delight of those who would have an exalted and attained by exalted means. The band played Auber's overture to "Fra Diavolo," Mendelssohn's "Caves of Fingal," and Weber's "Jubilee." Mr. Best gave Handel's first organ concerto, Signor Sivioli contributed some violin solos, and vocal pieces were sung by Mesdames Titens and Carola, MM. Prudenza, Mendioez, and Agnesi. What the pecuniary success of the series has been we know not; but, however great it may prove, the fact remains that the means were unworthy.

The new prima donna at the Crystal Palace Opera—Miss Rosetti—did not appear on Thursday, as announced; and the public remains a little longer in doubt as to her claims. Most people agree to hope that they may be great, and thus justify additional hope of an ultimate national opera. By-the-way, it is rumoured that St. James's Theatre will be opened in September and October for English lyric drama, with Miss Hersée and Mr. Sims Reeves as principals. Upon the truth of this report we cannot pronounce.

To-day take place the last Crystal Palace summer concert, and the second and last of Mr. Mapleson's entertainments at Albert Hall. This may be regarded as the wind-up of the season.

PRINCE OSCAR OF SWEDEN.—On Wednesday morning his Royal Highness Prince Oscar of Sweden went by special steamer to the vicinity of the Commercial Docks, and there laid the foundation of a Scandinavian church for seamen. The ships in the docks hoisted their flags, and the scene was a very animated one. A marquee had been erected, and his Royal Highness was here received by the visitors invited to be present at the ceremonial. After summary proceedings, the Rev. Axel Frost, chaplain of the Swedish Legation, preached a sermon, and the Prince then laid the stone of the church amidst much cheering. The Swedish band which was present played the National Anthem, and his Royal Highness shortly afterwards left for Greenwich. Later in the day the Prince visited the Albert Hall and the International Exhibition.

DEATH OF MR. FRANK MATTHEWS.—The death of this popular comedian, which happened on Monday, will cause unfeigned regret among all who knew him, either in his public capacity as an actor of remarkable humour or in his private life as one who commanded the respect of everybody who had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Mr. Frank Matthews, who expired at the age of sixty-five, had been upon the London stage more than forty years, having made his first appearance at the old English Opera House in July, 1829. From that period, as a member of Covent Garden, the Olympic, the Lyceum, and the Princess's Theatres, he remained prominently before the public; and, not less for his long association with the brightest names in theatrical history than for his own merits as a genial dramatic humorist, he was ever welcomed as one of the most firmly established of metropolitan favourites. His last engagement was at the Court Theatre, where he performed so recently as last May.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH.—The deaths from smallpox in the metropolis, which in the three previous weeks had declined from 235 to 133, were 135 in the week ending last Saturday. The Registrar-General is sounding a note of alarm as to the approach of cholera, which is said to have entered Western Europe through Russia, and is fast advancing on the German frontiers. Its propagation in London has been found in former visitations to be by means of contaminated river waters. Something, therefore (says the report), should be done to secure a purer supply of water than London has at present. The deaths from diarrhoea in the last six weeks were, respectively, 24, 20, 46, 39, 64, and 110. The annual rates of mortality from all causes in the following places, per 1000 of the population, were:—Wolverhampton, 11; Hull, 13; Bradford and Dublin, 16; Portsmouth, Norwich, and Birmingham, 18; Bristol, 19; London and Leicester, 20; Leeds, 21; Nottingham, 22; Edinburgh, 24; Sheffield, 25; Manchester, 26; Salford, 27; Liverpool, 30; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 33; Glasgow, 35; and Sunderland, 47.

HOME FOR LITTLE BOYS.

LAST Saturday afternoon an event occurred which, taken in connection with the efforts just now being made to reclaim homeless and friendless boys from the streets, educate, and put them in the way of gaining an honest livelihood, cannot fail to be of interest to the general public—namely, a visit of about 1400 ladies and gentlemen to the Home for Little Boys at Horton Kirby, near Farningham, Kent. It was in 1864 that the idea of an institution which should receive and care for children who had not actually been convicted of crime, but were on the borders of vice and wickedness, suggested itself to a few earnest people, and no sooner was it conceived than carried out. A building in Tottenham, which had in years gone by done duty as the parish workhouse, was selected for the time being, and, once opened, was speedily full of little ones who had been taken from the streets. But the great wish of the promoters of the scheme was to provide a place in the country which should partake more of the nature of a home, by making a sort of boys' colony, where the children should live in what might be termed family homes, thirty in a family, with a master and matron, to be called a father and mother, in each; and it was proposed that sympathisers should be invited to aid until ten such houses should be built. Efforts were made and money raised so quickly, that in about two years' time the Princess of Wales went to Farningham and laid the foundation-stone of a school-chapel and five houses, named respectively, Alexandra House, raised by general subscription; Quiet Resting-place, the gift of Harcourt Chapel congregation; the Children's Cottage, paid for by the children of England; Hanbury House, given by the late Mr. R. C. Hanbury, M.P.; and Lady Morrison's Home, provided by that lady. These buildings were completed by June 5, 1867, and on that day the migration from Tottenham took place. Since that time a workshop has been built, in which the boys are taught all descriptions of trades, such as turning, carpentry, painting, glazing, shoemaking, tailoring, baking, paper-bag making, sewing, knitting, washing, and other useful arts; while on a farm of one hundred acres, which adjoins, and which has been hired by the committee, a number of boys are taught the science of practical agriculture. These various departments of industry are under the superintendence of master artificers, who are each in charge of one of the houses. The work turned out is very surprising; for, while the juvenile bakers, washers, and needle-boys do all that is required in their particular trades for the establishment, and the farm-boys raise enormous quantities of vegetables, potatoes, wheat, pork, butter, and milk, 96,855 bags were last year produced by the twenty-eight workers in paper, nearly 2000 pieces of clothing made or repaired by the thirty-two little tailors, and 1231 pairs of boots furnished by the eighteen shoemakers. We mention these numbers as a specimen of the labour performed. In September, 1869, three more houses were added—called the Little Wanderers' Retreat, Kidbrooke Lodge, and the Little Ones' Refuge—the gifts of a lady who wished her name kept secret, of Miss Elizabeth Peek, and of Mr. and Mrs. Leaf. Then followed, in July last, the remaining two—Finlay Cottage and George Moore Lodge—built by benefactors of the names they bear. An infirmary was also erected at some distance off; but this has been in very little use, for since the removal of the children to Horton Kirby, more than four years since, not a single death has occurred.

The whole of the houses being now completed, the committee determined to invite the friends of the institution to pay it a visit; and, Sir Stafford and Lady Northcote having promised to be present, it was decided that the annual examination and distribution of prizes should take place on Saturday. Accordingly, about one o'clock a special train left London conveying to the home, as we have said, some 1400 friends. Upon arrival the company proceeded to the school-room, where a very smart examination of the boys in geography, mental arithmetic, and Scripture took place. Then Lady Northcote distributed the prizes to the boys who had distinguished themselves, and rewards in the shape of medals and money to "old boys" who had received good characters from those into whose employ they had entered on leaving the institution. Of these latter there were some twenty, and the very respectable appearance they presented showed that the instruction they had received at the home had not been lost upon them. After this was over Sir Stafford Northcote rose and said that the appearance of the boys should be a matter of great congratulation. These were the strength and sinew of the country; but what they would have been except for the care they were receiving it was impossible to tell. In many cases, instead of a strength, they must have been a source of weakness. They were taken from a class which lived like the heathen, without any knowledge of God, to a place where they learnt to know the value of religion. The task yet before his hearers was difficult, but he considered they had great grounds for encouragement to continue the work, in the assurance that success ultimately awaited them. Such institutions as these were of incalculable good, and he was sure that their value could only be learnt from a personal inspection of the work the boys did and the place in which they lived. The right hon. Baronet proceeded to mention an instance in which the institution had done good by placing a boy in an engineer's establishment in the north, and aiding him afterwards in such a way that he was now gaining a good livelihood; and concluded by addressing a few encouraging words to the children. Monsieur Bost, a French pastor, who has helped in similar institutions in France, then spoke, and gave it as his opinion that the excesses of the Commune could never have taken place had there been large numbers of such homes as these when those who had lately committed such crimes were boys capable of learning better; and the company then adjourned to the workshops, where the boys showed them how their daily labour was performed. Tea was served in the various cottages to the visitors, after which all proceeded to a field, where races, jumping, and climbing for prizes took place. Mention, however, should not be omitted of the band of the institution, the members of which, in their smart hussar uniform, presented an exceedingly creditable appearance, and played remarkably well. These were aided also by the band of the Boys' Home in Whitechapel, distinguishable only by the scarlet plumes in their caps. About eight o'clock in the evening the proceedings were brought to a close, and the company returned to London, having spent an exceedingly agreeable day.

THE PUBLIC OFFICES AT ROME.—Very many of the buildings in Rome hitherto belonging to the religious orders have lately been converted to secular uses, and are now occupied as public offices by the Government of Victor Emmanuel. Thus, the Minister of the Interior and Premier holds in *capite* the Convent of San Silvestro. The Ministry of War is fixed in the old Franciscan Convent of the Holy Apostles. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in the Valentin Palace and in the Palace of the Consulta, hitherto the property of the Pope. The Treasury is in the Dominican Convent of the Minerva. The Minister of Commerce has his head-quarters in the famous printing-office of the Papal Government. The Minister of Justice has the old Palace of Florence. The Admiralty occupies the Monastery of San Augustin, which once served for a Zouave barracks. The Ministry of Public Works is at the Braschi Palace, which was bought for the grand nephew of Pius VI. The Minister of Public Instruction has his quarters in the well-known military club of the Papal officers, in the Piazza Colonna.

OVERWORKED RAILWAY SERVANTS.—At a meeting held last Saturday, at Derby, to hear a lecture delivered on this subject, Mr. Bass, M.P., who presided, said he had long taken a great interest in the matter, having had a voluminous correspondence with Mr. Allport, the general manager of the Midland Railway, and he believed his efforts would not eventually prove fruitless. But he had not confined his efforts to that railway. Not long since an accident which occurred on the London and North-Western Railway directed his attention to the course pursued by that company, and at his instance Mr. Cawkwell, the manager of the company, instituted an inquiry into the matter. Accidents arising from the excessive work of railway servants were constantly occurring. He disclaimed all antagonism towards the Midland Railway Company, of which he was an extensive shareholder, besides being a large customer. He was glad to find that a committee approved by the directors had inquired into the evil complained of, and that in some places the hours of work would be reduced from twelve hours to eight hours a day. Sidings, too, and, in some cases, additional lines would be shortly laid down to aid the men in the expeditious and efficient execution of their work.

THE POOR LAW OF SCOTLAND.

THE report of the House of Commons' Select Committee on the operation of the poor law in Scotland discusses the whole subject at some length. With regard to the incidence of the burden of the relief of the poor, which falls upon lands and heritages, a suggestion was made to the Committee that the machinery of the income tax might be made available to bring the whole wealth of the country to bear its share in the charge. But the Committee observe that the income tax touches a portion only of the national revenue, and that an attempt to apply it to the objects of the poor law, with all its inequalities, exemptions, and the inquisitorial process by which it is levied, would endanger the tax itself; and we should either have to fall back on the present mode of assessment or have recourse to a national rate. The evidence given before the Committee shows that the former practice of assessing income for poor-law purposes was a fertile source of contention and difficulty; that attempts to enforce the law with strictness invariably provoked resistance, and that this mode of levying the assessment was falling gradually into disuse before its repeal. The Committee are of opinion that the practical difficulties which arose in levying the rate did not arise merely from jealousy of the local authority which enforced it, but are inherent in the attempt to assess income for local taxation. The Committee consider that grants may be made from the Imperial Exchequer for special purposes, such as in aid of medical charges and towards the support of pauper lunatics; but that to allow the local authorities to draw on imperial funds for the ordinary relief of the poor would be liable to abuse. But they are of opinion that all exemptions should be abolished, and that all real property, private or public, including Crown property and property dedicated to charitable purposes, should bear its fair share of taxation for the poor. Shootings and deer forests in the occupation of owners should be assessed. The Committee recommend that every parochial board be required to appoint a medical officer at a suitable salary, exclusive of the cost of medicines; half the expenditure to be contributed from the public Exchequer, as in England and Ireland. The principle of the poor law in Scotland has always been that the persons entitled to parochial relief are those who are wholly or partially disabled on account of age or infirmity, so as to be incapable of earning a sufficient maintenance; and the Committee are not prepared to accede to the suggestion that a discretion should be given to parochial boards to grant relief out of the poor rate to able-bodied poor in cases of commercial distress. The Committee are of opinion that the application of a poorhouse test would be generally advantageous; and that no relief should, at any rate, be allowed, except in the poorhouse, to a woman whose disability arises wholly from her having an illegitimate child. In Scotland the practice is now pretty generally adopted of boarding out children who are orphans or deserted or separated from their parents; and the evidence is so unanimous as to the benefits of the system that the Committee propose that it be made obligatory, subject to medical opinion on the several cases. They consider that the poorhouse test should not be rigidly exercised in the case of the blind, the deaf and dumb, and others whose physical condition precludes the risk of imposition; and that provision should be made for the education of blind children. The provisions in force against vagrancy in towns under the Police Act have been found to work satisfactorily, and it is suggested that they might with advantage be extended to counties. The report contains also suggestions for the amendment of the law in regard to the constitution of parochial boards and on some other points.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.—The annual report of the Meteorological Committee of the Royal Society has been presented to Parliament. It states that the number of ships supplied with instruments by the office has been nearly doubled during the past year, the number of barometers adnat on Jan. 1, 1871, being 124, as compared with sixty-nine twelve months previously. In addition, all ships in commission in the Royal Navy have, as usual, received all their meteorological instruments from the office. Monthly charts of data for the west and south coasts of South America have been lithographed, and will shortly be published. As regards telegraphy and weather warnings, no change of importance has been made in the system. At the end of April last the stations where the drum-signal is hoisted were 123 in number. With respect to land meteorology of the British Islands, the report shows that the seven observatories are in active operation.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO IRELAND.—The Lord Lieutenant and Countess Spencer arrived in Dublin on Monday, and the preparations at the Viceregal Lodge for the reception of their Royal Highnesses the Prince of Wales and Princess Arthur are now nearly complete. The people of Dublin, however, are considerably dispirited by the continued wetness of the weather, which broke up a fashionable promenade last Saturday at the grounds of the Royal Agricultural Society that had been intended to increase public interest in the approaching show. Should a favourable change take place, the festive week is likely to be highly agreeable to all who may share in its gaieties. The Royal stand at the show-grounds is built in ties to accommodate 1200 persons. The horse-jumping will be the peculiar feature of the show. Three ironclads will form the escorting squadron accompanying the Royal yacht Osborne, conveying the Prince of Wales to Kingstown on the 31st inst.

A RIGHT-OF-WAY DISPUTE.—During the last few days some excitement has prevailed in High-street, Camden Town, from an attempt which is being made to stop up an ancient thoroughfare leading from the High-street to Arlington-street, Mornington-crescent, and in front or alongside of what is known as the Bedford Music Hall. This step is being taken by trustees of land in the vicinity, who contemplate erecting some buildings on the thoroughfare in question. They have even gone so far as to run up a foundation-wall, in contravention, it is said, of an arrangement come to with the vestry. A number of excited and indignant inhabitants of the neighbourhood, on Monday night, destroyed the wall so erected; but it was put up again on Tuesday, and some disagreeable and ultimately legal proceedings are likely to be the consequence. A deputation of the inhabitants of Camden Town waited, on Wednesday, on the St. Pancras Vestry in reference to this affair. After a long discussion, the vestry decided to refer the matter to the solicitor to report as to the powers of the board to interfere.

OVERWORK IN THE GOVERNMENT TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT.—On Tuesday afternoon Dr. Hardwicke, the Deputy Coroner, held an inquest at the Castle Tavern, Holloway-road, on the body of James Whitaker, aged fifteen years, an employé at the telegraph-office, Morpeth-court, Lothbury. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased, a native of Dublin, had been employed in the above office for a term of three months as an instrument clerk. He was on night duty, and, although his hours were from 8 p.m. to 9 a.m., he very often had to remain at his post for twenty-five, and sometimes thirty-seven, hours. On Saturday afternoon last he requested permission to go home, and was refused. On Sunday afternoon he was taken very ill, and, although seen by Dr. Ostler, he expired within an hour. The post-mortem examination showed that the cause of death was exhaustion from consumption. The foreman (Mr. Watts) stated that the jury wished to express their opinion that, after the evidence brought before them, they considered that the system of labour in the postal-telegraph offices ought to be remodelled, as the present system of long hours was productive of many evils. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL DISCOVERIES IN ST. ALBANS ABBEY.—During the last week, while a number of men engaged in the work of repairing St. Albans Abbey were making excavations in the north and south transepts, some discoveries were made of a nature interesting to archaeologists, as they have established a circumstance about which there has been considerable uncertainty—namely, that the ancient level of the floor was two feet below that of the present time, the upper stratum being now composed of debris taken from various parts of the abbey and deposited there. The discoveries in the north transept consist of some tiles of a raised geometrical pattern, which are of great antiquity, evidently dating back to the end of the twelfth or beginning of the thirteenth centuries, and are supposed to have been placed there during the abbacy of John de Cella (twenty-first Abbot of St. Albans), from the year 1195 to 1214. This Abbot effected a great deal of reparation in the abbey, amongst his work of restoration being that of the grand entrance in the west. He also, according to the testimony of Matthew Paris, enlarged the fabric in that direction, and the same historian asserts that he involved himself and his monastery in the most severe embarrassments from the magnitude of plan on which the work was commenced. In the south transept a number of encaustic tiles have been found, also of very ancient date, it being thought very probable these were laid in the thirteenth century, during the abbacy of John de Berkhamsted, who was Abbot from 1291 to 1302. The discovery of this lower level shows the bases of the doorways leading to St. Mary's and St. Simon's chapels, in the south transept, and gives greater facility of access to the Abbots' Crypt. The earth has also been removed from the east side of St. Cuthbert's screen, in the baptistry, where, from the moulding exposed, it is obvious the ground has also been raised.

A PEDESTRIAN FEAT IN THE LAKE COUNTRY.

An ascent of an English mountain is not a very arduous achievement. Many a tourist now sojourning in the pleasant land of lakes looks forward to a day on Skiddaw or Scawfell without misgiving of anything except it may be a blister or two, or a not unpleasant drowsiness after dinner. And a veteran of the Alpine Club would, after a tramp over Helvellyn, be very possibly inclined to exclaim with Hotspur, "Fie upon this quiet life! I want work!" But Professor Tyndall or Mr. Whymper himself might shrink from attempting such a day's toil as was last month successfully accomplished by a gentleman of Keswick, who in twenty-four hours walked seventy miles and ascended 13,200 ft. Most visitors to the lakes have seen or heard of the model of the mountain district exhibited at Keswick; but few would guess that the unpretending, and to all appearance not exceptionally athletic, gentleman who is in charge of the model would be able suddenly to vary the monotony of so sedentary an occupation by an exertion which would tax the powers of the best-trained pedestrian, and would seem to require enormous physical strength. The details of what has been called "a feat hitherto unprecedented in the annals of English mountaineering" were supplied to a local journal from a diary kept through the journey, and their strict accuracy is vouched for. It is stated that the heights are those of the Ordnance Survey, the distances as far as possible accurately estimated, and the times of arrival at and departure from the various stations on the route easily to be verified by anyone sufficiently curious in the matter. At midnight, on June 17, Mr. H. J. Jenkinson, of Keswick, left home "with the express intention of visiting the summits of six of the highest mountains in England within a period of twenty-four hours." At 3.25 a.m. he reached Sty Head Tarn, 1430 ft. above the sea. At 4.5 a.m. he had climbed Great Gable (2949 ft.), and gone a distance of fifteen miles. Thence he returned to Sty Head Tarn at 4.30, and reached Eskhouse (2490 ft.) at 5.15, en route for Scawfell Pike, the highest land in England (3210 ft.). But owing to a dense mist, accompanied by a drizzling rain, this point was not attained till 7.20. From Scawfell Pike the route was retraced to Eskhouse with the view of passing, via Hanging Knott (2903 ft.), to Bow Fell. Beyond the former eminence the track was no longer discernible in the thick mist, which necessitated a return and a descent to a lower elevation. Here Mr. Jenkinson's friend who had accompanied him from home gave up any further attempt and returned to Keswick, and ninety-nine out of every hundred good walkers would, we imagine, have at that moment renounced the society of Mr. Jenkinson for that of Mr. Jenkinson's friend. Fortunately, two Langdale shepherds (Hodgson and Davis), who were crossing the mountains for angling purposes, were fallen in with at this point, and prevailed upon, for a liberal pecuniary consideration, to accompany Mr. Jenkinson in a second attempt to ascend Bow Fell (2960 ft.), which was not accomplished until 10.30. From this place the route lay by way of Angle Tarn, White Stones, Greenap Edge, and Ullscarf Ghyll, to the inn at Wythburn, which was reached at two p.m. Leaving Wythburn at 3.15, in company with the inn guide, Mr. Jenkinson arrived at the top of Helvellyn (3118 ft.) at 4.45 p.m. The mist now cleared away for the remainder of the day. Helvellyn was descended by way of Thirlspout, and passing northwards through the vale of St. John, he reached the village of Threlkeld at 7.10, from which place the ascent of Blencathara (Saddleback) was commenced at 7.30, in company with two young men of the village. At 8.50 the summit (2847 ft.) was attained by way of Threlkeld Hall Ridge, which affords the most direct but difficult path, one rarely attempted by tourists. From Blencathara Mr. Jenkinson proceeded by way of Skiddaw Forest in a straight line for Skiddaw Man (3054 ft.), where he arrived, after a few minutes' rest at the gamekeeper's house, at 11.10 p.m. From Skiddaw the return home was made by 12.55 a.m. on the morning of the 19th.

The whole of this remarkable journey, it may be interesting to add, was accomplished without the use of wine or spirits; a mixture of beer and lemonade taking the place of the water afforded by the mountain streams only three times in the twenty-four hours. By referring to a good map of the district it will be seen that the whole distance travelled over cannot be computed at less than seventy miles, while the various ascents made throughout the journey amount in the aggregate to no less than 13,200 feet. The only unpleasant sensation experienced was one of sleepiness on Skiddaw. Indeed, Mr. Jenkinson fancies he must have slept for a time there. But he came home comparatively fresh and strong, confident that he could do even a greater distance in the same time; and next, or rather the same morning, was at his usual occupation at the dairy almost verbatim; but so astonishing a feat deserves a wider circulation in these days of Alpine clubs and Alpine literature.

THE LIFE OF A VAGABOND.

In the reports on vagrancy, presented to Parliament in 1848, there occurs the notice of the case of George Atkins Brine, perhaps one of the most extraordinary ever published. Brine was educated at the charity school of Sherborne, in Dorsetshire, and subsequently apprenticed to a butcher in that town. He soon, however, relinquished his trade and adopted mendicancy as his mode of living. It occurred to one of the secretaries of the Charity Organisation Society in London that if this man were still alive and could be hunted up, his life and experience would prove most valuable in shedding some light upon the difficult question of vagrancy. After much difficulty it was discovered that Brine was back at Sherborne, and that he had been in the union of that town for the last twelve months. Brine, although he has been a vagrant for upwards of forty years, has kept up a constant correspondence with his family, and his letters, though probably in most cases written from prison, were generally dated from some grand place in the town where he was forced to sojourn. He was also very fond of telling of the aristocratic company he had been

in at the races and other public gatherings which he used to frequent. If he wanted to get to any particular place, and if by chance happened to be the seat of the county gaol, he would break windows on the road, and thus be conveyed so far on his way at public expense. Here is his own story, briefly told, which will speak for itself. He is now fifty-nine years of age, and it may without exaggeration be said that he has been supported for fifty of those years by the public, either in the workhouse or in the gaol:—

Honoured Sir,—Apologising for not having replied to your courteous note earlier, I beg to answer some of Mr. R. T.'s inquiries respecting me. In the first place, Mr. R. T. desires to know what induced me to adopt such a mode of livelihood; secondly, how I have supported myself in my wanderings; thirdly, how I have supported myself, and my opinion of them; and, fourthly, the gaols in which I have been incarcerated, with the cause of these incarcerations. Now, in reply to the first question, I left Sherborne to seek employment at my trade (that of a butcher), and, not succeeding for a time, I soon discovered that more money could be got without work than with it. What knowledge I lacked was soon instilled into my mind by professional vagrants.

Secondly, How I have supported myself during my wanderings. Now, I mean to make a clean breast of it: I will candidly declare that I have stuck at nothing. I have worked (but very little) at my trade; I have been a cattle-drover; I have been a salesman with three different cheap-jacks; I have been a pot-hawker; I have been a vender of pens, paper, razors (Peter Pindar's), spectacles, laces, &c.; I have been a distributor of religious tracts; I have been in the employ (for two years together) of manslaughtering quack doctors—four different ones (I am more ashamed of this than of any other of my follies, for the majority of them are not robbers only, but homicides). I have sold cards at all the principal races in England. I have also attended for many years all the principal prize fights. I have been a "shallow cove" (i.e., a member of the land navy); also a "highflyer" (i.e., a beggar-leader impostor); a "lurker," one who is forty different trades and master of none. My favourite "lark" was butchery, tallow-chandler, or carrier; and, to crown all, I have been a preacher! This game pays well in remote village streets on Sunday evenings, provided you are well stocked with tracts; but I was not fit for it—my risibility is too easily tickled; and once when I was invited to "hold forth" in a small chapel, I was in no little danger of grinning in the pulpit at my own rogues. This was at Rothbury, Northumberland. I must also tell you, in short, I have been a rogue, impostor, and vagabond of each and every denomination. I say this because it is true, and because I am now heartily ashamed of it.

3rdly, Mr. R. T. wants to know my opinion of the casual wards I have visited. Now, I have visited but very few; I think I could swear that I never was in twenty different ones during the twenty-two years I was rambling, but I am fully convinced that they all tend to foster vagrancy. Even such places as Oxford, Cambridge, Bath, Rochester, Norwich, and Hastings, do more harm than good; for out of every ten tramps there are nine impostors, or professional tramps. You may think this is saying too much; but I am sure it is the truth. There was no relief to be had, there would be no vagrants. The difficulty lies in distinguishing between the honest working man and the rogue. Now, the distributors of Watts's Charity in Rochester seem to pride themselves upon their own sagacity on this point. I have been a recipient of Watts's no less than eight times; so I leave you to guess whether they relieved a deserving customer in me, or otherwise. In Norwich, at St. Andrew's Hall, it is the same. I once gave my ticket, which I had obtained there, to a poor blacksmith who had been refused one. The reason he had been refused was because he was not so consummate a liar as I was. This is truth. If he had been a trading liar he would have gotten his bread, cheese, beer, and bed, valued at eightpence.

Again, Mr. R. T. and his colleagues will never deal effectually with vagrancy unless they begin at the right end. Let them, or the Legislature, suppress two thirds of the common "padding kens," or low lodging-houses. These are the great receptacles of vice in its most repulsive aspect. It is there the supply of vagrants is manufactured, ay, in the very womb; it is there they dispose of their ill-gotten gains, for great numbers of them are regular "padding kens," and great numbers of them will not lodge a working man at all, if they know it, lest he should divulge their secrets. And all lodging-houses ought to be under stricter police surveillance. Again, Sir, you know—or ought to know—that the greater the villain the more plausible is his tale, and the more assured, invincible impudence he possesses, the likelier he is to attain his ends—at least with people who are little acquainted with these mysteries, for rogues don't care to deal with rogues; in truth, they will never trust each other; and I assure you, Sir, the gullibility of the British public is so great, and their hearts so finely susceptible to what they believe to be a tale of genuine distress, that their generous benevolence is unbounded. They don't like to be imposed upon; but, as I said before, the rogue, liar, and impostor, practised as he is, soon convinces them that he, at least, does not belong to the cadging fraternity. And now, fourthly, how many gaols? This is a poser. Well, here goes. I have been in gaol more than one hundred different times! There are but two counties in England that I have escaped "limbo." I have also been in several in Scotland and Wales. In the great majority of cases drunkenness has been the cause; I have never been convicted of felony or larceny, but I have for obtaining money under false pretences, and several times for hawking without a licence, many times for vagrancy, smashing windows, and other offences, for the whole of which I richly deserve hanging. To this, I presume, Sir, you will say Amen. I am, honoured Sir, your unworthy servant, G. A. D.

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

ALLEGED FRAUDS ON INSURANCE COMPANIES. At the Mansion House, last Saturday, Charles Jeane, a Frenchman, residing at 38, St. James's-street, Bedford-row, and described as a printer, who had been apprehended on a warrant, was charged before the Lord Mayor with obtaining a cheque for £145 from the Alliance British and Foreign Life and Fire Insurance Company, with intent to defraud. The circumstances, as will be seen, were very peculiar. Mr. Humphreys, solicitor, of the firm of Humphreys and Morgan, Newgate-street, attended to prefer the charge. The prisoner was undefended. It appeared that on June 11, 1869, the prisoner effected an insurance with the Alliance Company upon his furniture and stock in trade for £250. On June 12 of this year he addressed a letter to the company informing them that a fire had occurred on his premises, and he eventually sent in a claim to them for the damage, which he estimated at £263 13s. 2d. His account of the origin of the fire was that he left a candle burning while he went with a parcel to the Inns of Court Hotel, and that during his absence a piece of cardboard, which had stood against a window, had fallen on the candle and ignited. He added that, although the fire had done no material damage to the premises, it had done a great deal to his stock in trade, which was of a peculiar kind, consisting of valuable prints and chromolithographs, the remnants of which he produced. Together with the claim he sent in to the company he delivered a declaration to the effect that at the time of the fire no insurance had been effected by him on the same property with any other company. On June

28 the company, on the advice of Mr. W. D. Harding, their assessor, paid the prisoner £145 in settlement of his claim, they allowing him to retain the salvage, and there was an end of that transaction. On the 10th inst. the prisoner addressed a letter to the London Insurance Corporation in precisely the same terms he had used in that to the Alliance Company, on June 12, describing the fire on his premises and its results, and claiming to be remunerated for the loss he had sustained, which he estimated at £274 10s. 1d., under a policy he had effected on the same property with that company, and which policy, as was afterwards discovered, was in existence at the time of making his claim on the Alliance. On inquiry Mr. Harding found that at the time the claim was made upon the Alliance the prisoner had an existing policy in the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company; that he had claimed from that company, on May 8 last, for goods destroyed in a fire similar to those mentioned in the claim on the Alliance, and that in the result the North British paid him £131 15s. Through the Salvage Corps it was afterwards ascertained that the prisoner had been paid various sums of money from other insurance companies with which he had effected policies in respect of the same fire. Mr. Humphreys, the solicitor for the prosecution, produced in court a manuscript book belonging to the prisoner, and in his handwriting, which contained the name of forty or fifty insurance companies upon which he had been operating, and from which it was to be inferred that he had received nearly £1000 in all in respect of the same fire. He also produced some of the debris of chromolithographic prints, on which the prisoner had obtained the sum of £145 from the Alliance Company, and which there was reason to believe he had used in imposing on other companies. The case against the prisoner, of which that is an outline, was shortly investigated on Saturday. Mr. Harding, the assessor, related in evidence the circumstance so far as they had come within his knowledge, and in the result the Lord Mayor remanded the prisoner for a week.

THE ELTHAM MURDER.—At Guildhall, on Monday, Mr. Henry Pook, solicitor, of 1, Mitre-court, Temple, and Greenwick, attended before Sir Robert W. Carden for the purpose of obtaining summonses against Superintendent Griffin, of the R division, and Inspector Mulvaney, of Scotland-yard, for having committed wilful and corrupt perjury in the late prosecution of Edmund Walter Pook on his trial at the Central Criminal Court for the murder of Jane Clousen, at Eltham. Mr. Pook said he had to make an application for a summons against two police officers for perjury. Sir Robert W. Carden said they usually heard such applications in private, and the informations must be sworn to. Mr. Pook said it would be impossible, with so much matter of detail, to consider the case *in camera*. Mr. Pook then called Edmund W. Pook, who handed in his information signed, and, in reply to Mr. Pook, said he had read it and understood it, and it was true. Mr. Ebenezer W. Pook then read his information, signed it, and swore to it. The information having been sworn to, Sir Robert W. Carden, Mr. Martin, and Mr. Pook retired into a private room, where they remained a long time. On Wednesday Sir Robert refused to grant the summonses asked for.

CHARGE OF ROBBERY AND FORGERY.—At Marlborough-street, on Monday, William Goldard, acting butler and footman to Mrs. Henriette Davidson, a widow lady, residing at 3, Berkeley-street, was charged before Mr. Mansfield with stealing a quantity of silver plate, value £600, the property of his mistress. The prisoner was also charged with forging his mistress's name to several cheques, and also the names of tradesmen to several bills. The prisoner was further charged with stealing £800 entrusted to him for the purpose of paying tradesmen's bills. The table of the court was covered with plate of different kinds. Mr. George Lewis, jun., appeared for the prosecution, and stated that the prisoner had been Mrs. Davidson's servant for five years, that he was entrusted with money to pay the bills, and that great confidence was placed in him. It having come to Mrs. Davidson's knowledge that her tradesmen had not been paid, and that the prisoner had stolen about £800, that writs had been sent to her house from tradesmen, which writs had been kept by the prisoner, and that even an execution had been put in and paid out by the prisoner—all this during her illness—steps were immediately taken against the prisoner. On further inquiry it was discovered that he had forged Mrs. Davidson's name to some cheques, and also the names of several tradesmen to their bills, and, further, that the prisoner had pledged plate of the value of £600. He was obliged to remark that he felt horrified that such a mass of plate should have been taken in by a pawnbroker on the mere statement of the prisoner that he had authority to pledge it. After the evidence of Henry Tattersall, the manager of Mr. Peter Buzzard, pawnbroker, of Harrow-road, of Mrs. Davidson, and of Walter Grant, assistant to Messrs. Fleming, pawnbrokers, had been taken, Mr. Mansfield remanded the prisoner, and directed the police to retain the plate, observing that it was a fine state of things in this country for a person to have a writ served at his house without knowing anything about it, and to have an execution put in and paid out without the least knowledge of the circumstance.

A SENSITIVE THIEF.—At Southwark, on Wednesday, Henry Smith, twenty-one, rather smartly dressed, was placed at the bar before Mr. Partridge for final examination, charged with stealing a valuable silver watch and gold chain from the person of John Keeth Sykes. The prosecutor said he was a traveller, and resided in West-square, Southwark. On Tuesday afternoon, the 18th inst., he was proceeding along Great Charlotte-street, Blackfriars-road, when he saw a man fall down apparently in a dying state. A number of people surrounded him, and as witness was looking on he turned round suddenly and saw the prisoner on his left side looking about him in a trembling manner. Witness said to him, "You look very ill." The prisoner replied, "It's enough to make one ill on seeing a poor man dying like that," and at the same time he ran off as fast as he could. Witness on looking down saw that his watch and chain were gone. He immediately pursued the prisoner, and after a smart chase

secured him in a court from which there was no outlet. He then said to the prisoner, "You have got my watch and chain," when he replied, "Oh, here it is," at the same time picking it from the ground and handing it to him. Witness then held him until a constable came up, when he gave him into custody. Former convictions were proved, and he was committed for trial.

NOT AT ALL GENTLEMANLY.—At Bow-street, on Tuesday, Frank Benison, of Upper-street, Islington, who said he was "a gentleman living on his means," was charged with being drunk and assaulting several ladies and others in the Strand on Monday evening. A lady named Usher, whose face was much disfigured by a blow, said that the defendant struck her with his clenched fist in the eye, while she was looking at a show-board near Temple Bar. He passed on and struck and kicked at other people, mainly women and children, and tore one lady's bonnet completely off her head. A constable stated that he was followed by nearly 200 people, and looked like a maniac. The defendant said he was very sorry, but had no recollection of the occurrence. He remembered having a glass of ale in Cranbourne-street, at half-past five, and it must have been drugged, for he could not tell what happened afterwards till he found himself in a cell on waking up next morning. Mr. Vaughan committed him to one month's hard labour.

THE TICHBORNE CASE.—Some important intelligence has been received from Australia with respect to the Tichborne case. One of the gentlemen of the long robe has started, on the shortest possible notice, on an errand which is likely to reveal the whereabouts of the second principal hero in this romance of real life. A Judge's order, issued on Wednesday in reference to this case, recites that, by consent of both sides, neither the inability of Chief Justice Bovill to preside, nor the incapacity of one or two of the jurymen to serve, shall interfere with the continuance of the trial when the proceedings are resumed on Nov. 7 next.

PERILS OF THE STREETS.—The police returns show that in the year 1870 as many as 124 persons were run over and killed in the streets of London, and 1919 were maimed or injured. In the last five years (1866-70) 533 persons have been thus killed and 7908 maimed or injured. The 2043 accidents in London streets in 1870 occurred in this wise:—440 by being run over by cabs, 102 by omnibuses, 245 by broughams and carriages, 636 by light carts, 158 by heavy carts, 110 by waggons and drays, 257 by vans, 10 by fire-engines, 79 by horses ridden, and 5 by velocipedes. The Commissioner of Police reports, however, that special attention was paid during the year to measures tending to diminish the risk of pedestrians. Constables have been placed at the most crowded crossings, and special pains taken to obtain the names and addresses of offenders. In the case of cabs, the number-plate now affixed behind the cab generally suffices for this purpose; but in the case of light carts and waggons no such clue at present exists, and they often entirely escape. Of the 124 persons killed in the streets in 1870, 11 were run over by cabs, 17 by omnibuses, two by carriages, 27 by light carts, 24 by heavy carts, 20 by waggons or drays, 19 by vans, 1 by a fire-engine, 2 by horses ridden, and 1 by a velocipede.

CRIME REGISTER.—The Commissioner of Police of the metropolis reports that the Metropolitan Police returns of 1870 show a decrease, in comparison with the previous year, in the number of persons of bad character. The number of known thieves and depredators under sixteen years of age is 267 boys and 77 girls, showing a decrease respectively of two and of sixteen; sixteen years old and upwards, 1113 men and 320 women, a decrease of fifty-seven in the latter, but an increase of forty-three in the former number. The receivers of stolen goods are returned as 112 men and 28 women, showing a decrease of twenty and seven. The suspected persons are 390 boys under sixteen and 145 girls, being a decrease of seventy-four and twelve; and 1123 men and 469 women, a decrease of 121 and twenty-six. The totals are 657 boys and 2348 men, and 222 girls and 817 women. The houses of bad character in the metropolis are returned as 1510, a decrease of 230; 123 are houses of receivers of stolen goods, 961 are houses of ill-fame, and the remainder are resorts of thieves and bad characters—viz., 114 public-houses, 56 beer-shops, 163 coffee-shops, and 93 other suspected houses.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—P. H. BARTON, Alfred-place, Bedford-square, professor of music—J. MASTERS, Mark-lane, mason.
BANKRUPTS.—G. T. BAKER, Stratford, grocer—A. CAUSTON, Walthamstow, surveyor—S. JONES, Regent's Park-road, grocer—J. KAIN, Walthamstow, builder—F. KORN, Approach-road, Victoria Park, commission agent—M. OLIVER, High-street, Whitechapel, merchant's clerk—J. BARRETT, Holbeck, cloth manufacturer—J. BEECH, Hanley, beer-seller—W. BELTON, Brighton, pork butcher—J. CHIDGLEY, Charlton Kings, cattle salesman—A. DAWSON, Liverpool, coal merchant—J. EWING, Great Grimsby, fish merchant—J. F. LANKFORD, Brimsington, cement merchant—J. J. RAWLINGS, Stowmarket, millwright—J. S. RICHARDS, Birmingham, banker's clerk—J. THOMPSON, Fleetwood, licensed victualler—W. WILLIAMS, Gwalchmai, near Llangefni, draper.

BANKRUPTCY ANNULLED.—T. T. SYKES, Slaithe, woad wool manufacturer.
BANKRUPTS.—W. FIELD, Dean-street, New North-road, cowkeeper—G. R. WARNER, Dagenham, market gardener—C. WARREN, Bond-street, wine merchant—G. WHITE, Duncan-square, Hackney, pianoforte manufacturer—T. S. HALL, Truro, wine and spirit merchant—C. BAWDEN, Gwennap, mine agent—H. JOHNSON, Spalding, corn merchant—J. JOWETT, Liverpool, timber-bender—V. U. LEAY, Birkenhead, grocer—J. NUTTER and J. T. STOTT, Brierfield, cotton manufacturers—G. WINZAR, Bath, fishmonger.



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